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# History of Linn County Iowa

From Its Earliest Settlement to the Present Time

ILLUSTRATED

Volume II

Pt. 2

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and forty acres of farm land and also three hundred and twenty acres of timber land. After eight years were spent in that state, he returned to Linn county and for three years farmed in connection with his wife's people. Soon after his return from Nebraska he decided to make Carroll county his home, and with that end in view purchased a farm in that county, which he continued to operate for fifteen years. In 1894, however, he became the owner of valuable land in Linn county, and to its cultivation and further development he devoted his time and attention until 1898, when he retired from active business life and removed to Cedar Rapids, where he has since made his residence. He still retains possession of a large body of fine land in Audubon county and is the owner of several valuable residence properties, including his home place in Cedar Rapids, which are the visible evidence of the enviable success which he has attained during the years of his active connection with business interests. Prosperity came to him as the legitimate and logical result of intelligence and well directed effort, and today he ranks high among the men of affluence in Cedar Rapids.

Mr. Ross laid the foundation for a happy home life by his marriage in 1873 to Miss Frances A. Brown, a native of Linn county, and with the passing years their union has been blessed with a family of five sons. Of this number Guy is yet residing with his parents. Joseph H., the second in order of birth, wedded Miss Nettie Pierson, of Audubon, Iowa, and has two children, Frances A. and Helen. He is a prominent lawyer of Audubon, having as a partner in his law practice Senator Cosson, now the republican nominee for attorney general. The third son, Lee R., is assistant superintendent of the Phenix Insurance Company of Hartford, Connecticut, in which city he makes his home. Bert E. married Miss Mary Lotto, of this city, by whom he has two children, Herbert and Ralph. Lyle D., the remaining son, also resides with his parents and is a member of the McQueston, Ross Paint & Wall Paper Company, one of the well known and prominent concerns of that kind in Cedar Rapids and Linn county. The family residence, which is the property of Mr. Ross, is one of the beautiful homes of the city, and it is not only the center around which the interests of the family gather, but is a favorite resort with a large circle of friends, to whom its warm hospitality is ever freely extended.

Although Mr. Ross' success in the business world has won him a prominent position among Cedar Rapids' substantial citizens, there is another reason why he deserves special mention in this volume. A staunch republican since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, he has become well known in political circles of this city and twice represented his ward as alderman. While sitting in the city council he was active in many measures of vital significance to the community at large, many of which owe their success to the ceaseless and untiring effort of Mr. Ross. It was mainly through the determined struggle on his part against large odds that the Second avenue bridge was built at a cost of one hundred thousand dollars, he being a prominent figure in raising seventeen thousand dollars from the property owners. At that time there was a bridge appropriation of but thirty-five thousand dollars in the city treasury, with no legislation for securing the balance of the money necessary to build the bridge. He also put up a determined fight for improvements for the west side of Cedar Rapids and fought for and won the measures providing for the paving with brick of Second avenue from end to end. He brought to the attention of the council the question of crossing facilities for the Northwestern Railroad Company, resulting in the inauguration of the present system, including the crossing at Second avenue. He took an active interest in all legislation passed during his term of service as alderman, and his labors were of vital consequence in many important measures, while the sincerity of his devotion to the public good has never been questioned, the terms patriotism and progress being the salient forces in his citizenship. He is, withal, a man who finds pleasure in the social amenities of life and his many excellent traits of char-





acter have won him a large circle of friends in this city. He has membership relations with the Masonic body, belonging to Crescent Lodge, A. F. & A. M. and to Trowel Chapter, R. A. M., is a Knight Templar and a Noble of the Mystic Shrine, and is likewise with his wife a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. With him perseverance, diligence and integrity have constituted the guiding posts of life, bringing him to the honorable position which he now occupies in the opinion of his fellow citizens, while his efforts in behalf of his city have been potent forces in the upbuilding and development of Cedar Rapids.

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### GEORGE FREDERICK RABUS

George Frederick Rabus is senior member of the firm of Rabus & Toeller, conducting a flourishing business in designing and modeling special machinery, wood and brass patterns and general machine work in Cedar Rapids. He was born in Tecumseh, Michigan, February 5, 1862. His father, John R. Rabus, was a native of the town of Giesengen, Bavaria, and came to the United States in 1849 at the age of thirteen years at which time he settled in Maumee Valley, near Toledo, Ohio. His education was completed in the schools of Adrian, Michigan, and he afterward learned and followed the machinist's trade. During the Civil war he was called by draft into active service and was assigned to duty in repairing guns and cannon at Tecumseh, Michigan, in the only United States foundry in the middle west. After the war he continued to follow the machinist's trade for many years but is now living in honorable and well earned retirement at Adrian, Michigan. He married Miss Christina Martiny, a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, who having passed away, now lies buried at Adrian, Michigan.

George Frederick Rabus was provided with excellent educational opportunities, pursuing college studies after completing his high-school course. Being somewhat frail physically, in the hope of developing a more strong and robust manhood, he went to work upon a nursery and fruit farm, following that occupation for two years, the out-door life proving very beneficial. At the age of eighteen years he turned his attention to the machinist's trade, being bound out by his father for a term of four years. On the completion of his apprenticeship, during which time he became an expert workman in that line, he entered the employ of the Lake Shore Railroad Company and after leaving that service engaged with the Litchfield Machine Company. Subsequently he returned to his home and remained there for eighteen months after which he came to Cedar Rapids, entering the employ of the Fawcett Manufacturing Company as foreman, managing their entire business in its operative department during the seventeen years in which he remained with the house. No higher testimony could be given of fidelity and capability in service than the fact of his long connection with the company, but ambitious to engage in business on his own account that his labors might more directly benefit himself, he organized the firm of Rabus & Toeller in 1901. From the beginning they have conducted a growing business in designing and modeling special machinery, in manufacturing wood and brass patterns, and in conducting general machine work. Theirs is a well-equipped plant and the output is satisfactory to its patrons as shown in their continued support. Their business is now being conducted in terms of tangible profit and their success is the legitimate reward and logical result of many years of experience and activity in the business.

In 1887 Mr. Rabus was united in marriage to Miss Emma Kruckenberg of Loden, Iowa. Their children are four in number: Gertrude, Arnold, Leona and Hildegard. Arnold is now attending college in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, while Gertrude graduated from the high school in 1909. Mr. Rabus is a republican







G. F. RABUS



where national issues are involved but votes independently at city elections, considering only the capability and worthiness of the candidate. He is a charter member of the German Lutheran church of Cedar Rapids and is a man who has been at all times faithful to his professions, governing his life according to the principles of sterling manhood.

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### ELMER A. JOHNSON

Elmer A. Johnson, attorney at law of Lisbon, is actively connected with a profession which has important bearing upon the progress and stable prosperity of any section or community, and one which has long been considered as conserving the public welfare by furthering the ends of justice and maintaining individual rights. He is one of Wisconsin's contribution to the citizenship of Iowa, his birth occurring at Warnerville on the 29th of November, 1871, a son of John and Kate (Burke) Johnson. The father was born in Norchopping, Sweden, on the 17th of October, 1843, and in the schools of his native country acquired his education. When a young man of eighteen years he decided to test the truth of the rumors which had reached him concerning the opportunities offered in the new world for advancement in business, and so, crossing the Atlantic in a sailing vessel, he landed in New York in 1859. Continuing his journey westward to Illinois, he located near Joliet, where he remained for a time, and later removed to Wisconsin, making his home at Warnerville. Devoting his energies to the occupation of farming, he remained a resident of the Badger state for a number of years, and in 1877, after making his home in Pittsville for a time, he removed to Iowa where, in 1897, he passed away on a farm near Chester. While residing in Warnerville he had married Miss Kate Burke, who was born in New York, near the city of Rome, on the 4th of October, 1847, and survives her husband, making her home at Chester, Iowa. In their family were three children: Birdie, who in 1892 became the wife of W. A. Nye, of Salem, South Dakota, and passed away December 19, 1905; Elmer A., of this review; and Dr. N. W. Johnson, a practicing physician of Quasqueton, Iowa. Mrs. Johnson is a daughter of Michael and Mary (Kelly) Burke, natives of Ireland, whence they came to the United States in 1843, settling first in New York. Later they removed to Wisconsin, taking up their abode near Warnerville, where their remaining days were spent. In their family were ten children.

Elmer A. Johnson was a little lad of five years when his parents left Wisconsin, accompanying them on their removal to Howard county, Iowa. There upon a farm his boyhood and youth were passed, while the country schools furnished him his preliminary education. For about eight years thereafter he was engaged in teaching school, but he did not consider this seriously as a vocation, for he had early become imbued with a desire to follow a professional career, and with this end in view, in 1897, began studying under the direction of John McCook, of Cresco, with whom he read law during the summer and fall months of 1897 and January of 1898. In the latter year, having mastered the fundamental principles of legal learning, he entered the law department of the Iowa State University at Iowa City, from which he was graduated in June, 1899. In the meantime, however, his college course had been interrupted, for on the 22d of April, 1898, at Iowa City, he enlisted for service in the Spanish-American war, being mustered into the United States army at Des Moines on the 17th of May as a private in Company I, Fiftieth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. He served with his regiment until November 30, 1898, when he was mustered out and returned to Iowa City to complete his studies. In September of the following year he came to Lisbon and here opened an office, being identified with legal interests here at the present time. Almost from the beginning he was





prosperous, his success being entirely due to his own efforts and merits. The possession of advantages is no guarantee whatever of professional success — this comes not of itself nor can it be secured without industry, integrity and ability. These qualities he possesses to an eminent degree and is faithful to every interest committed to his charge, while the provident care which he gives to the preparation of each case has insured his winning a large number of cases before the court.

It was on the 5th of June, 1901, that Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Ella Kettering, a native of Lisbon and a daughter of Solomon and Mary Kettering. They became the parents of one daughter, Ella Kettering Johnson. On the 1st of February, 1903, the wife and mother passed away, and later Mr. Johnson was again married, his second union being with Iva M. Strong, also a native of Lisbon and a daughter of Charles and Margaret McAlister.

In his fraternal relations Mr. Johnson belongs to the Masonic order, holding membership in the blue lodge, and is likewise identified with the Knights of Pythias. His political allegiance is given to the republican party but the honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him, preferring to perform his duties as a private citizen rather than figure prominently in the public eye. His time and attention are concentrated upon his professional duties, and the clientage accorded him has attained such proportions as to place him among the successful and prominent attorneys of this county. He is, however, public-spirited in his citizenship, desiring that only which is best for his adopted city, and therefore lends his aid and influence to all matters which have for their object the growth and development of the community.

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### CHRISTIAN MAGNUS

Christian Magnus, a capitalist of Cedar Rapids living retired, is a representative of that class of German-American citizens who, coming to the new world with limited financial resources, have through their ready adaptability and undaunted enterprise reached the plane of affluence. Mr. Magnus has attained success as the direct result of close application and intelligently directed effort. He was born in Germany, March 19, 1834, a son of Carl and Elizabeth (Selzer) Magnus. The father, who was the owner of a brewery in the old country, died in 1871, having long survived his wife, who passed away in 1852.

Mr. Magnus spent his youthful days in his native land, acquiring his education in the private and classical schools in preparation for college. He was eighteen years of age at the time of his mother's death and was a young man of twenty-three years when he determined to try his fortune in the new world for favorable reports had reached him concerning the opportunities and advantages here offered. Accordingly in 1857 he made his way across the broad Atlantic and in 1859 became a resident of Cedar Rapids. Here he entered the employ of the Wetzell Brewery as foreman and continued there for about two years. He afterward went to Kankakee, Illinois, where he established a brewery which he conducted for two years while later he sold out. On returning to Cedar Rapids he became a partner of his former employer, Mr. Wetzell, and when four years had passed, purchased his partner's interest in the business, becoming the sole proprietor in 1868. The brewery was incorporated April 14, 1898. Mr. Magnus at that time having been with the business for fifty years, decided to retire. He therefore disposed of his interests and with his capital well invested he put aside manufacturing and commercial interests to enjoy a well earned rest. He has large investments in real estate and is also financially interested in the interurban car line operating under the name of the Cedar Rapids and Iowa City Railway and Light Company. He is also one of the stockholders in the Allison Hotel.



On the 3d of October, 1864, Mr. Magnus was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Wetzel, a daughter of Jacob Wetzel. She died June 6, 1906, and their two children, Mary Louise and Margaret Augusta, are also now deceased, the former passing away in 1881 and the latter in 1878.

Mr. Magnus attends the Episcopal church. During his long residence in Cedar Rapids he has enjoyed the good will and respect of a large majority of its citizens and is especially popular with German-American residents here.

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### WILLIAM HENRY RUNKLE

One of the leading and influential citizens of Lisbon, Iowa, is W. H. Runkle, who has been prominently identified with the business interests of the place and has also served as mayor of the city. A native of Pennsylvania, he was born in East Hanover township, Dauphin county, on the 10th of August, 1853, his parents being William and Sarah (Zimmerman) Runkle, who were also natives of the same state and made their home near Grantville for nearly fifty-three years. In 1873, however, they came to Iowa and spent the remainder of their lives in Lisbon. In their family were thirteen children, four sons and nine daughters, including: Amos K., who is engaged in the boot and shoe business in Lisbon; Jeremiah, a resident of Gainesville, Florida; Mrs. Elizabeth Henry, of Paris, Illinois; Ellen Gustafson, of Jamaica, Iowa; and Sarah Catharine, of Lisbon. The other members of the family are all deceased. On coming west three of the daughters located near Paris, Illinois, and four sons and five daughters came to Iowa. Jeremiah served about four years in the Civil war, being a member of the Sixteenth United States Regiment of Infantry. Another son, Adam, came to Lisbon in 1855, becoming one of the pioneer merchants of the city. For some time he devoted his attention to the shoe business, but for the last twenty-five years of his life was engaged in the hardware trade in connection with his uncle, D. Runkle, and his cousin, George Runkle.

In the state of his nativity W. H. Runkle grew to manhood and, being reared upon a farm, early became familiar with agricultural pursuits. Leaving the east in 1876, he came to Iowa and has since been a resident of Lisbon. He had received a good, practical education in the public schools of Grantville, Pennsylvania, and at the age of seventeen years began teaching, following that profession until his removal to Iowa. After coming here he engaged in the drug business in partnership with Dr. George Fletcher under the name of Fletcher & Runkle, handling drugs and jewelry. In 1882 he became connected with J. S. Smith in the jewelry business, but three years later bought out his partner and conducted the business alone until a few years ago, when he disposed of his stock to his son, C. R. Runkle, who now conducts the store. Since the organization of the Lisbon Telephone Company in 1900 he has served as manager of the same and has also been superintendent of the Lisbon Water and Light plant since its organization in March, 1895. Since disposing of his mercantile business he has given considerable attention to the writing of fire insurance and in all his business undertakings has met with well deserved success, being upright, honorable and reliable in all his dealings.

On the 24th of November, 1881, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Runkle and Miss Lizzie A. Hoover, who was born in Lisbon in 1858 and is a daughter of Jonathan and Mary (Blessing) Hoover, also natives of the Keystone state. Mr. Hoover accompanied his father on his removal to this state in the early '50s and spent the remainder of his life in Lisbon, where he carried on business as a blacksmith. Her mother was one of four sisters who sailed down the Ohio river on the Belle of the West, which was burned, but the four sisters were all rescued. Mrs.





Hoover still resides in Lisbon. Unto our subject and his wife have been born two sons: Charlie R., who is now engaged in the jewelry business as his father's successor; and Karl H., who is attending school. On the 20th of June, 1907, Charlie R. Runkle was united in marriage with Miss L. Perle Bittle, a daughter of Robert H. and Jane (Wilson) Bittle of Lisbon. Mr. Bittle is a traveling salesman for a Cedar Rapids firm but he and Mrs. Bittle make their home in Lisbon. Mrs. Bittle is a native of Linn county. At one time there were nine Runkle firms in business in Lisbon, all relatives of our subject, and there were over sixty residing in the town, while at the present time there are forty Runkles in the county.

His fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, have called Mr. Runkle to serve as mayor of the town, which position he efficiently filled for the long period of twenty-two years, giving the utmost satisfaction and making many needed improvements during his service. Progressive and enterprising, he supported every measure which he believed calculated to prove of public benefit and the city benefited by his active labor in her behalf. He has continuously served as secretary of Lisbon school district since 1879 and is now township clerk, which office he has filled for five terms. The republican party has always found in him a staunch supporter of its principles and he is one of the leading members of the United Brethren church of Lisbon, having served as secretary of the official board of the quarterly conference for about twenty-five years.

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### JOHN JOSEFI

The agricultural interests of Linn county find a worthy and successful representative in John Josefi, who is actively engaged in the operation of a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 16, Monroe township. His birth occurred in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1870, his parents being John and Josefi (Reshan) Josefi, both of whom were natives of Austria-Hungary. About 1867 they emigrated to the United States, locating in Baltimore, where the father passed away in 1886. The mother then returned to her native land and five years later gave her hand in marriage to Vincent Kratky, with whom she once more came to America, settling in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Soon afterward, however, they took up their abode in Ellsworth county, Kansas, and about six years later removed to Britton, Oklahoma, where they now reside.

John Josefi attended the common schools of Baltimore in the acquirement of an education and when but fourteen years of age began providing for his own support by working as a farm hand. After coming to Iowa in 1884 he was thus continuously employed for a period of ten years. He was then married and started out as an agriculturist on his own account. At the present time he makes his home on section 16, Monroe township, where he owns a well improved farm of one hundred and twenty acres that annually pays tribute to his care and labor in bounteous harvests.

As a companion and helpmate on the journey of life Mr. Josefi chose Miss Bessie Dvorak, of Kenwood Park, Linn county, their marriage occurring March 20, 1894. Her parents were Frank and Sophia Dvorak, both natives of Austria-Hungary. About August, 1867, they sailed for American shores and came direct to this county, where they have since made their home. They reared a family of five children, as follows: Mrs. Josefi; Mary, who is the wife of Elora Castle, of Linn county; and three sons, George, H. Frank, and Albin, who are still at home.

At the polls Mr. Josefi casts his ballot in support of the men and measures of the democratic party, and he has served as school director for one year. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Catholic church. Wherever known he



is held in high esteem and enjoys the friendship and regard of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact. His success has been gained through his own industry and good business ability, for he has always capably managed his affairs, and is today one of the well-to-do citizens of his community.

### WILLIAM HOWARD

The life history of William Howard, if written in detail, would present a complete and most interesting account of pioneer life and conditions in Linn county, where the family has been represented for sixty-five years. His father, Joseph Howard, was born in Maine in 1810 and in 1839 arrived in Linn county, Iowa, his worldly possessions consisting of a bushel of corn, an ax and twenty-five cents in money. He had something, however, that is better than capital — he was industrious, diligent and determined, working hard, and in a short time was the proud owner of a pair of oxen. These he sold for fifty dollars in order to make his first payment on a small tract of land of forty acres, which is a part of the present farm now owned by his son. The purchase made, he realized that he had the farm but had nothing to work it with. Not discouraged with the outlook, however, he resolutely sought a way in which to meet the conditions which confronted him in the improvement and development of his property. At length he arranged with a neighbor for logs with which to build a cabin. With primitive farm machinery he cultivated his land and after a brief time his wife inherited some money which was invested in forty acres adjoining the other tract. In course of time Mr. Howard came to be recognized as one of the enterprising and substantial farmers of his community and added to his place from time to time until within its boundaries were comprised one hundred and seventy acres well known as the Howard farm and constituting now one of the valuable properties of this portion of the state. When William Howard was fifteen years of age his father went to war. He was a man of fifty-two years and joined the Thirty-seventh Regiment of Iowa Volunteers, known as the Greybeards — a regiment that achieved a distinction by reason of its creditable military service. He was at the front for two years and nine months, during which time William Howard and his mother carried on the farming and succeeded so well that they were able to pay off a five hundred dollar mortgage upon it. On his return the father again assumed its management and continued in active connection with agricultural interests until his death, which occurred on the 23d of May, 1884. His wife died on the 11th of August, 1881, and thus passed away two of the most worthy and respected pioneer residents of Linn county.

William Howard retains many vivid memories of the early days. He relates interesting incidents of the Indians whom he saw in his childhood. They manifested none of those savage characteristics usually attributed to the red men, however, but were very friendly and in numbers exceeded the white settlers of the neighborhood. Amid such a frontier environment William Howard was reared and as opportunity offered pursued his education in the public schools. Having reached years of maturity he was married January 2, 1868, to a cousin, Miss Liza A. Howard, who died in 1905. Their only child, a son, was killed on the 9th of January, 1908. On the 10th of May, 1909, Mr. Howard was again married, his second union being with Miss Adda LeGore, of Cedar Rapids.

His political support was given to the republican party and he has long been a faithful member of the Methodist church. He is now practically living retired save for the attention which he gives to the management of his investments which are largely in real estate. A lifelong resident of Cedar Rapids and Linn county,





he is widely known within its borders and his long continuance here enables him to speak with authority concerning the events which have shaped the history of this part of the state. He has watched the passing of the Indians and the replacement of their tepees and wigwams with the modern farm dwelling; has seen the wild prairie land converted into rich and productive fields and the wild animals of the early days supplanted by the domesticated farm stock. It is hard now to realize that it is within the memory of a living man when this was a frontier region, so complete has been the transformation wrought by modern civilization.

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### SAMUEL I. HUNTER

Samuel I. Hunter is a worthy representative of one of the old and honored pioneer families of Linn county whose labors have done much toward the development of the agricultural interests of this section of Iowa. Mr. Hunter was born in Linn county, Iowa, March 6, 1848. His father, William Hunter, was a native of Ireland, and was but six months old when brought by his parents to America. The family located in Ohio and there William Hunter was reared to years of maturity. He was married in the Buckeye state to Miss Mary J. Howe, who was a native of Pickaway county, and subsequent to their marriage they located in Linn county, Iowa, the year 1840 witnessing their arrival here. This was six years prior to the admission of the state into the Union and much of the land was still in possession of the government. Mr. Hunter located on a tract of land which he entered from the government and on which he built a log cabin, that was covered with a clapboard roof and had a stick chimney. Although it meant arduous labor to establish a home in this pioneer district, Mr. Hunter with steadiness and courage met the problems and addressed himself to the task which western life presented and in due time he had cleared his land, placed the fields under cultivation and reaped the reward of his labor. He lived in this crude dwelling for several years but when the country became more thickly settled and its people became more prosperous, the log cabins were replaced with modern structures and Mr. Hunter likewise provided a better home for himself and family. Ten children were added to the household and five of the number are still living, namely: Katherine, the wife of Amos Pletcher, of Robins, Iowa; Samuel I., of this review; Henry, now a resident of Chicago, Illinois; Jane, the wife of Samuel Miller, of Sylvia, Linn county; and Elizabeth, the widow of Arthur Vowls, also of Linn county. The mother of this family departed this life in October, 1878, and the father surviving for about six years, passed away in March, 1884, at the advanced age of eighty-one years.

Samuel I. Hunter was born on the home farm and was reared in the usual manner of farm lads of the early period, assisting in the work of the fields during the spring and summer months, while during the winter seasons he pursued his studies in the district schools, which were primitive in appearance as well as in their methods of instruction. The son remained under the parental roof until 1875, when he made a trip to California, remaining on the Pacific coast for eight years, during which time he dealt in stock. On the expiration of that period he returned to Linn county, where he has lived to the present time.

On the 22d of November, 1895, Mr. Hunter was united in marriage to Miss Edith Alsop, their courtship having covered a period of twenty-five years. Mrs. Hunter was born in Cheder, Somersetshire, England, October 9, 1844, a daughter of Daniel and Honer (Jeffers) Alsop, who were likewise natives of England, whence they emigrated to America in 1847. Landing in New York they there established their home and reared their family. The mother died in 1864, and the father continued in the east until 1868, when he came to Linn county. He





SAMUEL I. HUNTER





purchased a farm, located in Marion township, and throughout his years of usefulness he gave his attention to the cultivation of his land. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Also were born six children but two of the number are now deceased, the surviving members being: Jane M., the wife of George Cook, of Marion, Iowa; George, a resident of New York; Daniel, who makes his home in Marion township; and Edith, now Mrs. Hunter. The father survived the death of the wife and mother for many years and departed this life in 1891, when he had reached the extreme old age of ninety-one years.

Subsequent to his marriage, Mr. Hunter purchased the farm on which he has since made his home, the place comprising forty-five acres. For several years he gave his attention to the cultivation of the fields and although he still maintains his residence on the farm, he is now living retired, his labors during his early years having brought him a competency that now supplies him with all the comforts of life.

While he has never taken an active part in political affairs, Mr. Hunter supports the men and measures of democracy. He is identified with the Masons, belonging to Marion Lodge, No. 6, at Marion, and both he and his wife hold membership relations with the Presbyterian church. The people of the present period can scarcely realize the struggles and hardships which attended the early settlers but Mr. Hunter is familiar with pioneer life and shared with the other members of the household in the sacrifice that necessarily had to be made in establishing a home on the frontier. He has lived, however, to witness many changes in this district as it has been placed on a par with the older east and now in the evening of life he finds no more desirable place for a quiet home than here in the community which he and his honored father helped to establish.

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### EDWIN KING LARIMER

While agriculture forms the basis of prosperity for the country at large, commercial enterprise is the foundation of the city's growth and development and the men who are most helpful in the work of public progress are those who are capably and honorably controlling legitimate mercantile enterprises. Of this class Edwin King Larimer was a worthy representative and Cedar Rapids is proud of his record.

A pioneer resident of Linn county, he was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, on the 19th of September, 1842, a son of William and Rachel (McMasters) Larimer, in whose family were nine children, seven sons and two daughters. The father, who was very prominent in banking circles, came west and had the distinction in connection with one of his sons of building the first house in Denver, the date of erection being 1858.

Edwin King Larimer acquired his education in both public and private schools, which he attended until thirteen years of age. In 1855 he accompanied his parents on their removal to Nebraska territory, settling on the banks of the Missouri river, near Bellevue Mission, which place is now known as La Platte. After living there for two years the family removed to Omaha, where they spent the winter of 1857-8, and in May of the latter year took up their abode in Leavenworth, Kansas. During the years 1859 and 1860 Mr. Larimer was employed in a retail store in Leavenworth and in the fall of the latter year crossed the plains to Denver, driving oxen for his eldest brother. He remained in Colorado with his father and brothers until the early spring of 1862, when he returned to Leavenworth. In June of that year, however, he found employment in Chicago in the branch store of the American Iron Works of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where he remained almost continuously for seven years, serving as



office boy, salesman, shipping clerk and traveling agent. In September, 1869, Mr. Larimer arrived in Cedar Rapids and, having saved a few hundred dollars, he established the hardware business, now conducted under the name of the E. K. Larimer Hardware Company.

Mr. Larimer was united in marriage on the 4th of November, 1869, to Miss Mary Elizabeth Dunlap, of Leavenworth, who was born March 17, 1844, and was a daughter of William Dunlap, whose family home was Ripley, Ohio, and who removed to Leavenworth in the early '60s. They became the parents of four children, namely: Edwin J., who was born October 4, 1870, and is now a prominent business man of Cedar Rapids; Joseph A., born September 13, 1873; Mary D., born July 18, 1876, now the wife of William L. Phipps, of Cedar Rapids; and William D., who died in infancy.

After coming to Cedar Rapids, Mr. Larimer took an active and helpful part in public affairs of moment here, serving as a member of the school board for several years and as a member of the city council for four years, being called to the latter office about 1878. As an alderman he aided in promoting much important city legislation and at all times he furthered the projects and movements which he deemed most useful to the city's welfare and improvement. He died on the 17th of January, 1906, honored and respected by all who knew him. His widow still survives and makes her home at No. 1400 Second avenue, Cedar Rapids.

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#### WILLIAM FOGARTY

William Fogarty owns and operates a finely improved farm of one hundred acres in Buffalo township, Linn county. He is a native son of the state, born in Dubuque county, in 1858, his parents being Daniel and Mary (Cleary) Fogarty, both natives of Ireland. They came to America at a very early day and spent five years in New York state, whence they removed to Dubuque county, Iowa, where the father spent several years in railroading. He then rented a farm in Buffalo township, Linn county, operating the same for three years, and at the end of that time he was enabled to purchase forty acres in that township. This proved but the beginning of his success, however, for as he prospered he kept adding to his original holdings from time to time until at his death his possessions aggregated five hundred and sixty acres of land, which he divided among his children, each of his sons receiving one hundred acres, while the remainder was given to his other children. He was twice married, William, the subject of this review, having been born of his first marriage. His mother died in 1865, and in 1868 the father was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Ellen O'Neal, who was born in Ireland, and by whom he had three children, Maggie, Daniel and John. The father died November 14, 1908.

William Fogarty acquired his education in the common schools and was early trained in the work of the fields, assisting his father during the periods of vacation. Putting aside his text-books, he gave his entire time to the cultivation of the farm, remaining under the parental roof until he was thirty years of age. He was then given by his father the one hundred acres of land on which he now makes his home, this being located in Buffalo township. He has made many modern improvements on the place, which include a good country residence, a substantial barn and out-buildings for the shelter of grain and stock, and everything about the place is neat and attractive in appearance, indicating the progressive methods of the owner.

On the 6th of June, 1899, occurred the marriage of Mr. Fogarty and Miss Bridget Fay, a daughter of Edward and Margaret (Mulconery) Fay, who were





natives of Ireland. In early life they emigrated to America, first locating in Chicago, but after ten years spent in the western metropolis, they made their way to Jones county, Iowa. There the father purchased one hundred acres of land, operating the same until the mother's death in February, 1898, after which he lived retired in Anamosa until he passed away on the 6th of August, 1909. Their family numbered six children.

Politically Mr. Fogarty is a democrat and at present is serving as township trustee. Both he and his wife are members of the Catholic church. He shows good judgment in the conduct of his business affairs and in his work is meeting success.

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### MARTIN HOLUB

Martin Holub is one of the wealthy landowners of Linn county, owning altogether three hundred and ten acres in Boulder township. He is a native of that township, born in 1856, of the marriage of Wensel and Mary (Ceman) Holub, who were natives of Bohemia, Austria. Emigrating to America in 1852, the family located on forty acres of land in Linn county, which the father entered from the government. Their first home was a dugout but as soon as circumstances would permit Mr. Holub built a log house containing but one room, and in this crude structure the family lived for many years. As time passed and he prospered in his undertakings, he added to his holdings and erected buildings in keeping with the times, eventually accumulating two hundred acres. In 1883 he abandoned agricultural pursuits and took up his abode in Prairieburg, where he lived retired until his death in 1889. The mother still survives, making her home in that village with her youngest daughter. She has reached the ripe old age of eighty-four years and has reared a family of fourteen children, of whom only seven are living.

Martin Holub was reared under the parental roof and acquired his education in the public schools. At the age of twenty-two years his father started him in business by deeding him a farm of eighty acres, which constitutes a portion of his present holdings. He has purchased land from time to time as he prospered and is now the owner of three hundred and ten acres, all of which is under a high state of cultivation, while the improvements on the place are some of the finest to be found in his section of the county. Method is apparent in the conduct of this farm, the land being platted and arranged so that the best results may be obtained from the labor expended. Closely adhering to a systematic rule of crop rotation, he has made a study of the adaptability of certain crop to certain soils, and each year he gathers golden harvests.

On the 2d of November, 1889, Mr. Holub was united in marriage to Miss Mary Holub, a daughter of Frank and Katrena (Malena) Holub, who were born in Bohemia, Austria, whence they emigrated to the new world in 1847. Locating in Iowa City, the father there followed carpentering for many years, eventually purchasing farm land and engaging in agricultural pursuits. He led a busy and active life until his death in 1899, having survived his wife only eight months. They had a family of thirteen children, but only four of the number are now living.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Holub have been born eighteen children, of whom two died in infancy, the living members being Joseph, Martin, Emma, Frank, John, Paul, Mary, Thomas, Anna, Victor, Sophia, Elizabeth, Raymond, Vencle, Henry and William. All have been educated in the common schools.

Mr. Holub gives his political support to the republican party and for several terms served as township supervisor, while for several terms he was also on the



school board, the cause of education ever receiving his hearty cooperation. Both he and his wife are members of the Catholic church. He has made wise use of his talents and opportunities and has met with well merited success. He is public-spirited to a marked degree and has a host of friends, by whom he is highly esteemed.

#### ABRAHAM SNYDER

Abraham Snyder, deceased, is not only deserving of prominent mention because of the active part he took in the early development and progress of Linn county but also because of his participation in the Civil war. He was born in Ohio on the 27th of January, 1836, a son of George W. and Elizabeth (Diveley) Snyder, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, but at an early day removed to Ohio, where they continued to make their home until their demise.

In the city of his nativity Abraham Snyder was reared and educated and when a young man engaged in teaching school. In 1855 he came to Iowa, taking up his abode in Linn county. Here he purchased land and to its improvement and cultivation devoted his attention until the dark days of the Rebellion. Feeling that his country needed his services, he enlisted for three years in Company A, Thirty-first Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and participated in several hard-fought battles and was also with Sherman on his march to the sea. His term of enlistment having expired, he was honorably discharged and mustered out at Davenport. Returning to Linn county, he settled on the farm where his family still reside and continued to engage in its operation up to the time of his death, which occurred on the 29th of May, 1900. His remains were interred in the Center Point cemetery and in his passing the community realized that it had lost a valued and useful citizen. On his return from the war in 1865 he united with the Methodist Episcopal church and continued an active member of the same up to the time of his death.

On the 27th of March, 1859, Mr. Snyder had married Miss Mary B. Chamberlain, who was born in Linn county on the 18th of March, 1841, a representative of an old and honored family, her parents being William and Rachel (Davis) Chamberlain, who were married in this county. Her father, who was a native of Massachusetts, came to this county in 1835 and three years later her mother, who was born in Ohio, also located here. They continued to make their home in Linn county throughout the remainder of their lives, although Mrs. Chamberlain spent her last years with a son and daughter in Des Moines, where she passed away June 22, 1909. Mrs. Snyder's brothers were the originators of the Chamberlain Medicine Company and were natives of Linn county.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Snyder were born the following children: Simon W., who is now operating the home farm; Lawson E., a resident of South Dakota; Ulysses A., deceased; Ida, who died in infancy; Eva, who commenced teaching at the age of seventeen years and continued to follow that profession until her death at the age of thirty-nine; Minnie, who was employed as a teacher in the public schools for some time and later held a position as stenographer in the office of Mr. Bealer at Cedar Rapids for nine years; Edwin, who died in infancy; Arthur J., who is now a resident of Australia, where his sister Minnie is visiting at the present time; and Davis C., who is at home. Several of the family have engaged in teaching school, including besides those already mentioned Lawson E., Ulysses A. and Arthur J.

Mrs. Snyder still owns the old homestead comprising two hundred acres, on section 15, Washington township, which is now operated by her sons Simon W. and Davis C., it being known as the Linn County Nursery & Fruit Farm. They







ABRAHAM SNYDER



also have a nursery at Center Point, where their general office is located. They are wide-awake, progressive business men and in connection with carrying on farming have also devoted considerable attention to bee culture, having an apiary of one hundred and ten colonies.

The sons are both members of Center Point Lodge, No. 142, A. F. & A. M., in which work Simon W. Snyder has taken a very active and prominent part, having filled all of the chairs. He is also a member of Center Point Lodge, No. 185, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and has filled every office in that lodge, while both sons and the mother are connected with the Eastern Star Chapter No. 320, at Center Point, and she is also identified with the Methodist Episcopal church. For many years the family has been one of the most prominent in the community where they reside and they have borne a very active part in its up-building and prosperity.

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### SIMON H. BAUMAN

From many parts of the Union came the pioneers of Iowa, and while some states sent more emigrants to our commonwealth, none has contributed nobler or more useful citizens than Ohio. Those tracing the nativity of men and women prominent in Iowa history find that a large number of them were born in Ohio, the state likely to wrest from Virginia her proud title as mother of the presidents. Among Ohio's illustrious sons who in early life came to the beautiful land between the two great rivers is Simon H. Bauman, who, since April, 1854, has been a resident of Mount Vernon except the two years 1865 and 1866, when his home was at Dixon, Illinois. He removed to Iowa with his parents from Smithville, Wayne county, Ohio, where he was born on the 18th of April, 1842. His brother dying in infancy, Mr. Bauman became the oldest of the seven children of Augustus and Elizabeth (Huntsberger) Bauman, who were both natives of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and who were married in Wayne county, Ohio, in 1839.

Coming of good stock, Mr. Bauman inherited superior physical and mental qualities, and has used these endowments to the best advantage. He has been one of Mount Vernon's most public-spirited and respected citizens, and his life has been a model of industry and integrity. When in business his fair dealing and accommodating ways made him many friends, and when he became editor and proprietor of the Mount Vernon Hawkeye in June, 1869, he at once gained the loyal support of the business and professional men of the town, all realizing that he had the qualifications for a good newspaper man. For over forty years Mount Vernon has had a local paper far better than those of other towns of its size, and in fact better than the weeklies of many cities of the middle west. Its columns have not been open to scandals and sensations, and personalities and other objectionable features have been carefully excluded. The editorials have been sensible, able and sincere, and questions of community, state or national interest have been fearlessly discussed. While not mixing in personal or neighborhood quarrels, the Mount Vernon Hawkeye has not hesitated to take a decided position on matters of public interest. Though Mr. Bauman has been a radical republican, he has treated those with a different political belief with courtesy and fairness, and has had warm friends in all parties. He has given the citizens of the southeast part of Linn county a newspaper which they could permit their families to read without danger of moral contamination or decadence of character. The effort of the editorial management has been to advance every Mount Vernon enterprise, and the town and college have known that the Hawkeye was loyal to both interests. Brought up in the one and educated in the other, both were dear to the editor. No person has spent more time in gratuitous work





for the public than the man who has directed the policy of Mount Vernon's excellent newspaper. He has not only advocated public improvements but has counseled cooperation and has tried in every way to promote the social, political and material welfare of the town and surrounding country. The business men of the place have taken all the advertising space of the paper and the publishers of the Hawkeye have not been compelled to seek questionable advertisements or to rely on outside patronage for support.

Mr. Bauman has been an important factor in determining the policies of the republican party in Linn county, always standing for the best men and the most desirable measures. No one is better qualified to give advice as to the management of a campaign or has better judgment as to its outcome. He has been responsible for the nomination and election of some of the best officials the county has ever had, and always has given his influence for sound platforms and worthy candidates. This man, who always has reserve strength and unused talents, has not been without public honors, though he has sought editorial distinction rather than political or social preferment. He has served as a member of the town council and as city recorder, and has been a delegate to different county and state conventions. He was Mount Vernon's postmaster from 1872 until 1885, his first commission being signed by U. S. Grant. In July, 1898, he was appointed state oil inspector by Governor Leslie M. Shaw and his efficient administration of the office secured a reappointment for another term. His greatest service to the republican party was rendered as a member of county and congressional central committees, and as a member of the state central committee for two years. He has long been a member of Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 112, A. F. & A. M., and has been connected with other fraternal and civic organizations.

While Mr. Bauman has been a man with many duties to perform he has not hesitated to give his time and money for the relief of the needy or the promotion of the social welfare. Many a family has reason to thank him for aid in time of financial distress and many a local enterprise has been successful on account of his self-sacrificing effort. Through his influence personal difficulties have been settled and inharmonious elements have been united. His life has been blameless and his sympathy and love for his fellowman have been the outward manifestation of a Christian inspiration which has been the source of his high ideals and right motives. In order to fully appreciate Mr. Bauman, an intimate acquaintance is necessary. His native modesty and quiet methods of work prevent the recognition of services which, if rendered by one of aggressive character and large self-esteem, would command marked attention. However, to have the continued love and respect of those who know us well is more desirable than to receive the passing applause of the multitude swayed by an occasional spectacular effort.

S. H. Bauman was united in marriage with Elizabeth Ayers at Dixon, Illinois, March 17, 1864. To this couple were born three children: Augustus Ayers, born in Dixon, Illinois, who has lived in Mount Vernon since two years of age, and who, for many years, was associated with his father in the publication of the Hawkeye and is now editor and publisher of that paper, married Mary, daughter of Judge G. M. Gilchrist, of Vinton, Iowa, August 9, 1892. Mary Elizabeth, born in Mount Vernon, October 24, 1867, was married there December 21, 1898, to John Neal Kyle, of that place. Mr. and Mrs. Kyle now have their home at Omaha, Nebraska. Frederick Ayers, the youngest member of the Bauman family, born in Mount Vernon, February 7, 1876, was married June 21, 1899, to Cordia Ferman, of Blairstown, Iowa. He was for some time connected with the Hawkeye but is now engaged in the clothing business in Mount Vernon. The mother of these three children died at Mount Vernon, August 11, 1899, and S. H. Bauman married her sister, Mrs. Mary A. Snow, October 24, 1900, at



Clinton. This second wife died at Mount Vernon, her death occurring June 22, 1905.

Though nominally retired from active business and professional life, the man of whom we write can prepare an editorial, carry through a business transaction or direct a political campaign with all the vigor of youth. His sons appreciate the help he renders in a busy time, and value his counsel in important matters most highly. Mr. Bauman's life has been a useful one and he has richly earned the enjoyment which comes to one whose children are successful and whose grandchildren promise to perpetuate the family name. He has been careful in business affairs, earnest in his work, loyal to his friends and true to his convictions. Such a man well deserves the respect of his fellows and the approval of God. May he live many more years for individuals and society will be the better for the services he will so cheerfully render.

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### GEORGE FLITSCH

George Flitsch is one of the prosperous farmers that has come to Linn county from foreign lands. Utilizing the opportunities that are here offered, he has gradually worked his way upward until he is now in possession of two hundred and thirty-five acres of rich land in Otter Creek township. Born in Switzerland, September 27, 1861, he is a son of George and Mary (Lotcher) Flitsch, who lived and died in the land of the Alps, the former passing away in December, 1871, and the latter in April, 1883. Of their family of ten children, George is the only one who came to America.

The last named remained under the parental roof until he was fifteen years of age and then he worked in the employ of others for four years. Foreseeing no future for him in Switzerland and having heard and read a great deal about the opportunities for advancement in the new world, he decided to leave home and accordingly in 1881 set sail for America. He spent the first two years of his residence here in Cleveland, Ohio, and in 1883 came to Linn county, Iowa, working by the month at farm labor for six years. He was economical and energetic and at the end of that period found himself in possession of some capital which he invested in eighty acres of land, constituting a portion of his present holdings. He has made all of the improvements on his land and his holdings now aggregate two hundred and thirty-five acres. In connection with his farming operations he has always handled stock and this branch of his business has added not a little to his yearly income. He has worked hard since coming to America and the success which he now enjoys is well merited.

On the 1st of December, 1885, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Flitsch and Miss Maggie Simen, a daughter of Abraham and Mary (Koher) Simen, who were likewise natives of Switzerland. In 1867 they emigrated to the new world, establishing their home upon a farm in Otter Creek township, Linn county. The father was busily engaged with work of his farm until his death in 1902. His wife passed to the home beyond many years before, her demise occurring in 1867.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Flitsch were born three children, two daughters and one son: Mary L., the wife of John Klingler, of Otter Creek township; Carl G., who died on the 13th of March, 1902; and Lilly E., at home. The wife and mother died January 30, 1892, and Mr. Flitsch was again married, his second union being with Mary K. Schmickley, a daughter of Jacob and Mary (Lebhere) Schmickley, who were natives of Germany. They sought a home in America in 1884, in which year they located on a farm in Otter Creek township, where they still make their home. By the second marriage of Mr. Flitsch there are six children: Jacob H., George F., Herbert G., Clarence W., Esther N. and Lorene L.





Mr. Flitsch is a democrat in principle and practice but is not active in public matters, for he finds that his time is fully occupied in his private affairs. He belongs to the Modern Brotherhood of America at Alburnett, while his religious faith is that of the Evangelical church. It is interesting to witness the success of Mr. Flitsch, who as a young man without capital came to America a stranger in a strange land. He readily adapted himself to circumstances, however, and, taking advantage of the opportunities which Linn county offered, has worked his way upward to a place among the substantial and well-to-do landowners of the locality in which he makes his home — Otter Creek township.

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### FRED A. ALLEN

The industrial interests of Cedar Rapids have a well known representative in Fred A. Allen, the president of the Allen & Hazeltine Paint Company, painters, decorators and dealers in wall paper at No. 309 First avenue. He was born in the state of New York, March 28, 1854, a son of Alanson and Mary (Stowe) Allen, who were also natives of the Empire state. Both are now deceased, the former passing away when the son was but six months old.

In his early childhood the family removed to Wisconsin so that he was educated in the schools of that state, pursuing his studies in the winter seasons while working in the summer months. His boyhood days were spent in Windsor township and in the village of Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, and on leaving school in 1869, when a youth of fourteen years, he began learning the painter's and decorator's trade at Sun Prairie under the direction of F. M. Lampson. After remaining in Mr. Lampson's employ for some time he bought out Mr. Lampson, continuing in business there until his removal to Green Bay, Wisconsin, where he remained for two years.

On the expiration of that period Mr. Allen came to Cedar Rapids in 1878 and for almost a third of a century has been identified with this city. He was first employed in Brown's Mills for about two years, after which he worked in the Cedar Rapids Opera House which was then being erected. Four months were given to that task, at the end of which time he spent one season in the employ of Mitchell & McClain. But desiring that his labors should more directly benefit himself, he entered into a partnership with Mr. Hastings and they bought out a paint shop. Their business connection continued until 1886, when Mr. Hastings sold out to Moses Hazeltine and the present firm of Allen & Hazeltine was formed. They have been associated for twenty-four years and in 1908 incorporated the business with Mr. Allen as the president and Mr. Hazeltine as secretary and treasurer. Both are men of well known business ability in their line and their long connection with the paint, decorating and wall paper business has made them thoroughly competent to do the finest work of this character. Their services are retained in some of the best homes of Cedar Rapids and in some of the leading business houses, and their work is an expression of all that is in good taste, combining both the practical and aesthetic.

In 1878 Mr. Allen was married at Green Bay, Wisconsin, to Miss Charlotte Currier, of Sun Prairie, who died, leaving two children, Roy, who is twenty-eight years of age and is a painter, of Colorado; and Earl, deceased. Three other children of that marriage are deceased. For his second wife Mr. Allen chose Miss Clara Moore, of Cedar Rapids, whom he wedded in 1891. For about twenty years Mr. Allen has been a Mason, holding membership in the lodge, chapter and commandery, and is regarded as an exemplary representative of the craft. He was affiliated with the Odd Fellows society for about twenty years but is not in active connection with the order at the present time. He is, how-





ever, a charter member of Cedar Rapids Lodge, No. 251, B. P. O. E. He has won for him a creditable position in business circles and in his fraternal and social connections is also widely and favorably known. His strength of purpose, close application and marked ability have constituted the salient features in his progress, enabling him to reach a creditable position in the line which he has chosen as his life work.

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### WILLIAM E. POWERS

A native of Linn county, William E. Powers has achieved success in agricultural pursuits as is proven by his excellent farm of two hundred and ten acres located in Spring Grove township. His parents were Edmond D. and Eliza (Riley) Powers, natives, respectively, of Vermont and Iowa. The date of his birth was September 29, 1869, and it was in the township in which he at present resides that he first saw the light of day.

Edmond D. Powers came to Linn county in 1866. He was a school teacher by profession, though reared on the Vermont farm in his early youth. For twenty-five years he taught school a part of the time in Linn county and was one of the most successful teachers of those days. Well read and highly educated, he ranked among the foremost men of the county and became, in time, one of its leading citizens. Eventually he began farming and for a time rented a place, though only for a short time, as he bought eighty acres in Spring Grove township shortly after he stopped teaching school. Upon his farm he lived with his wife until his death which occurred May 5, 1900. Mrs. Powers is still living upon the old home place with her children.

William E. Powers remained with his parents until he had attained his majority, when he began working by the month. First he was employed in a creamery for a year and then five years upon a farm, after which he bought eighty acres of land in Spring Grove township in 1896. In two years' time he was prepared to add forty acres to his first purchase and in three more years purchased another forty acres, making his total holdings amount to two hundred and ten acres.

Mr. Powers was united in marriage to Miss Dora E. Schreiner, February 22, 1903. She is a daughter of Henry and Sarah J. Schreiner, natives of Missouri. Her father is now deceased, but her mother is yet living in Missouri. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Powers three children have been born, namely: Edna A., aged six; Leo E., aged four; and Mabel, aged one year.

Mr. Powers votes the republican ticket at national elections and has interested himself in township affairs to the extent that he has served as township trustee for two years, while he has been treasurer of the schools for eight years. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Alburnett, and with his wife affiliates with the Methodist church, of which he is one of the trustees.

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### GEORGE F. MILLER

George F. Miller is closely identified with the financial interests of Otter Creek township as cashier of the Alburnett Savings Bank and in this capacity has gained a reputation throughout the community for keen business discernment and strict integrity. He is yet a young man but has given manifestation of many sterling business qualities, his experience and training well qualifying him for the conduct of the banking interests.



He was born in Linn county in 1883 and is a son of Jacob B. and Sarah E. (Albaugh) Miller, natives of Virginia and Pennsylvania respectively. They came to the middle west in 1846, first settling in Illinois, but two years later they removed to Linn county, Iowa, establishing their home on a farm in Monroe township, which the father operated for thirty-six years. At the end of that period he put aside business cares and he and his estimable wife are now living retired in Kenwood Park. Their family numbers eight children: Walter J., of Garber, Oklahoma; John A., a resident of Cedar Rapids; D. Earl, of Robins, Iowa; D. Loyd, of Lavina, Montana; Elsie, the wife of L. J. Varner, of Seattle, Washington; Anna, the wife of F. J. Harris, of Sherwood, North Dakota; Mamie, who died March 30, 1894; and George F., of this review.

George F. Miller was reared on the home farm, remaining with his parents until he was sixteen years of age, having in the meantime acquired his preliminary education in the common schools. Farm life did not appeal to him, however, and ambitious to enter commercial fields, to this end he attended the Cedar Rapids Business College for one year. At the end of that period he entered the employ of the Merchants National Bank at Cedar Rapids and after eight years' connection therewith, he became cashier of the Savings Bank at Alburnett, which position he is now most capably filling.

On the 18th of September, 1907, Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Ione McQueen, who after graduating from the high school at Coggon, attended the Wayland Academy at Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. She is the youngest of three children, whose parents are J. C. and Ione (Payne) McQueen, both of whom are natives of New York but who were married in Linn county. Their other daughters are: Gertrude, the wife of E. M. Adams, of Didsbury, Alberta, Canada; and Mattie, the wife of C. E. Fish, of Linn county. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have an interesting little son, Richard M., whose birth occurred September 25, 1908.

Mr. Miller gives his political support to the republican party. He is a Mason, belonging to Crescent Lodge, No. 25, at Cedar Rapids. He is a young man of strong personality and of marked individuality and is classed with the able young financiers of eastern Iowa. Everywhere he is held in high regard and his friends are legion.

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### HENRY A. SCOTT

In the days of his early boyhood Henry A. Scott knew Linn county as a frontier district, comparatively few improvements having been made to indicate that a progressive class of citizens would soon convert the county into a district equal to any of the farming communities of the east in the appointments and accessories of model farms. In the work of general advancement Mr. Scott has always borne his part. He was born in this county, April 5, 1856, and is a son of J. B. and Mary (Rissler) Scott, who were natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania respectively. The father came to Iowa at an early day and for a long period carried on contracting and building. He built the Daniels Hotel and other prominent buildings of Marion and later, in the fall of 1859, moved five and one-half miles northeast of Marion. His last days, however, were spent in Marion where he passed away in February, 1905, his wife surviving him until the following year. In their family were five children.

The healthful sports of outdoor life divided the time and attention of Henry A. Scott with the work of the schoolroom and the labors of the fields. His experiences were those which usually fall to the lot of a farm lad. He remained at home until his marriage which was celebrated in January, 1890, Miss Sarah E. Wiggins





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H. A. SCOTT



becoming his wife. She was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, July 19, 1809, in the old Keystone state, of which her parents, Henry and Hulda (Morris) Wiggins, were also natives. They are still living in that state where they reared their family of six children.

Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Scott began their domestic life upon a rented farm which he cultivated for a time and then purchased the old homestead, comprising four hundred and forty acres on sections 8 and 17, Marion township. In addition to this he owns a lot in Marion. His farm is a well developed property. In the early springtime the track of the shining plow is seen crossing the fields and the harrowing and planting follow. In due course of time he gathers good harvests because he rotates his crops and makes a study of the conditions which best meet the needs of certain grains. Like the great majority of Iowa farmers he is now giving considerable attention to the raising and feeding of stock which finds a ready sale on the market, for he always ships cattle and hogs in good condition.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Scott has been blessed with three children: Bertha M., who was born February 8, 1891, is a graduate of the Marion high school and of the conservatory of music; Harry B., born October 26, 1893, is now a high-school student; Donald, born December 25, 1896, completes the family. Mr. Scott, his wife and children, hold membership in the Congregational church at Marion. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and while he does not seek political office, he has served as school director. Recently he has become a member of the Masonic lodge at Marion and is eagerly welcomed into that organization for it is well known that he is loyal to any cause which he espouses. He and his family hold an enviable position in social circles and their home is attractive by reason of its warm-hearted hospitality.

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#### MOSES W. HAZELTINE

Moses W. Hazeltine, treasurer of the painting and decorating firm of Allen & Hazeltine, has by reason of his ability made continuous progress in his chosen field of labor and an appreciation of that which is harmonious in design and color is one of the potent elements in his success. A native of Massachusetts, he was born in Somerville, March 17, 1853, a son of Moses and Sarah (Kimball) Hazeltine. His father was a brick manufacturer who followed his trade until the outbreak of the Civil war when he enlisted in the army and met his death at the battle of Antietam.

The public schools of his native town afforded Moses W. Hazeltine his educational privileges. He continued in school until fifteen years of age and then went to Boston where he worked in the market for John P. Squares and some years later he made his way westward to Chicago and entered the employ of H. M. Hooker, dealer in paints, oil, etc., with whom he learned the business. He spent six years in that connection after which he went on the road as a traveling salesman with that house. He then joined with Mr. Allen in establishing the present firm. In 1886 he bought out the interest of Mr. Hastings, forming a partnership with Mr. Allen, and for twenty-four years the present firm of Allen & Hazeltine has existed, maintaining during much of this period the position of leadership in their particular field in Cedar Rapids. The business was incorporated in June, 1908, with Mr. Allen as president and Mr. Hazeltine as secretary and treasurer. As manager of the financial interests of the house Mr. Hazeltine is a most busy man and his unflagging enterprise has been one of the strong elements in the success of the business.



On the 16th of May, 1892, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Hazeltine to Miss Grace L. Hawkins, a daughter of C. W. Hawkins of Buffalo, New York. He has been a Mason since 1888 and belongs to the chapter, commandery and to the Mystic Shrine. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias fraternity, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. His influence is always on the side of justice, truth and right. With no special advantages at the outset of his career save those offered by thorough instruction in the public schools of New England, he started out in life for himself when a youth of but fifteen years and each year has witnessed his progression, seeing him in advance of the point which he had reached the year before. He early recognized the fact that diligence and determination are the basis of success and he has found that prosperity is ambition's answer.

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### EDWARD MICHAEL DONOHUE

Edward Michael Donohue, deceased, a well known and prominent resident of Clinton township, was born March 1, 1861, in Cedar Rapids, where now stands the beautiful Marion flats on Fourth avenue. His parents, Jeremiah and Ann (Waters) Donohue, were born on the Emerald isle in the years 1832 and 1834 respectively and there lived to young manhood and womanhood. When Mr. Donohue was twenty-two years of age he came to America, settling in Seneca county, New York, where he was employed until his removal to Iowa in 1858. In the year 1854 Ann Waters, then a young woman of twenty years, came with her three sisters to the new world and also settled at Seneca Falls, New York. Three years later, in 1857, she gave her hand in marriage to Jeremiah Donohue. In 1858 they made their way westward to Iowa City, Iowa, where they lived for a year. The succeeding three years were spent in Cedar Rapids, at the end of which time they removed to Norway, Benton county, where they remained for a year, after which they returned to Cedar Rapids where they purchased a hotel which they conducted for some time. On selling that property they purchased a farm in Clinton township where they resided until 1892, then retiring to a home in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, which they built, there spending the remainder of their lives. Mrs. Donohue died in 1893 while Mr. Donohue passed away in 1894. Nine children were born unto them, five of whom died in infancy, while Jerry passed away in his fourteenth year, Edward, Ellen and John reaching adult age.

Edward M. Donohue, whose name introduces this record, begun his education in the first ward school of Cedar Rapids, but when he was nine years of age his parents removed to a farm which was his home at the time of his death. He then attended school in Clinton Center in the district of Clinton township until he attained young manhood. He was afterward a student at Coe College in Cedar Rapids, in 1881 and in 1882 attended the Cedar Rapids Business College from which he was graduated with honors, being an especially fine penman. Mr. Donohue was a child of nature, loving fishing and boating, the flowers and the birds and all phases of outdoor life. His first venture following his graduation was to engage in teaching school and in this, as in all his undertakings, he met with success, being employed as teacher of the same school for four winter terms. He imparted readily and clearly to others the knowledge that he had acquired and, moreover, learned that self-control and ability to read and understand others, which are important elements in the work of a successful teacher. These qualities, moreover, proved of value to him in his later business career. After teaching for some time, he turned his attention to commercial pursuits and for years was a traveling salesman. His first employers were Alderman & Son, of Marion, Iowa, but the ability which he displayed in that direction caused his





services to be sought soon afterward by the Warder & Glessner Company, manufacturers of Champion binders and mowers, of Chicago, Illinois. His expert salesmanship and work soon drew to him the attention of other firms who employed traveling men and his services were sought by the William Deering Company, manufacturers of the Deering binder and mower, at Chicago. He remained with that house for several years, filling the responsible position of general manager of the office of the firm at Cedar Falls, Iowa, having the northern half of the state under his jurisdiction, while his labors included the direction of the efforts of several traveling salesmen. In 1896 he resigned this position to take charge of the home farm located in Clinton township, to which he had gone when a boy of nine years and which was his home at the time of his death, on the 6th of December, 1907.

On the 5th of September, 1888, Edward M. Donohue was married to Miss Anna M. O'Connell in the Catholic church at Fairfax, Iowa. She was the youngest child of David and Bridget (Ryan) O'Connell, who were married April 14, 1849, in New York city and lived in Harlem, New York. The father was born in Ireland in 1817 and when a young man, with his brother and sister emigrated to the United States in 1845, settling in Dutchess county, New York, where he made his home until he came to Iowa. Bridget Ryan came to the new world in early womanhood in company with her brother Patrick and they, too, settled in Dutchess county, New York. Patrick Ryan and David O'Connell worked for the Harlem railroad, the latter being roadmaster from Harlem to New York city, a distance of one hundred miles. Saving his money, he invested in property in New York. In 1861 he disposed of his interests there and made his way westward to the Mississippi valley, accompanied by his little family, then consisting of his wife and five children. They settled in Clinton township, Linn county, on the farm which was their home to the time of their death. Five children were born in New York and five in Iowa, namely: John, Mary, David, Timothy and Charles, who were natives of the Empire state, and George, Theresa, Emma, Ellen and Anna, upon the home farm in Iowa. Of these Emma is now Mother Mary Ross of Dubuque, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. O'Connell purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land in Linn and Benton counties and in the early days he carried the mail across the prairie from Cedar Rapids to Toledo, Iowa, long before the building of railroads. During the period of the Civil war at the little postoffices which were in the homes of the early settlers, eager faces watched and waited for the lone horseback rider to bring them news of their country's welfare and of the loved ones and friends who were at the front. Mrs. O'Connell died December 23, 1886, while Mr. O'Connell passed away February 23, 1891. Both were members of the Roman Catholic church.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Donohue were born four children: Raymond Edward, Chester L. Justine, Edina Marguerite and Rose Bridget, all of whom reside at home. At the time of their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Donohue purchased a residence in Cedar Rapids, where they remained for five years while Mr. Donohue was upon the road as a traveling salesman. When he took charge of the Deering office at Cedar Falls he removed to that city, there remaining for two years, and in 1896 he removed to the home farm in Clinton township where he remained until his death, on the 6th of December, 1907.

While residing at Cedar Falls, Mr. Donohue was a notary public and for several years was president of the school board of Clinton Center. It was during his service in that capacity that the fine modern school house of Clinton Center was built. He was a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, also of the Commercial Pilgrims of America and for several years filled the position of clerk in the Modern Woodmen Camp to which he belonged. He likewise held membership in the Catholic Protective Association. He was a Roman Catholic in religious faith and at the time of his death was a member of St. Patrick's church



of Cedar Rapids. The family name of Donohue is an old and honored one and the subject of this review was a man of more than ordinary intelligence who kept himself well informed on the leading questions of the day and was deeply interested in all matters pertaining to the welfare of his community but also to the state and nation.

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### BENJAMIN B. CURRELL

Benjamin B. Currell, proprietor of a model bakery in Cedar Rapids, a liberal patronage insuring him success, was born in Fredericksburg, Virginia, March 27, 1861. His father, Benjamin French Currell, also a native of Fredericksburg, where he was well known as a contractor, died about 1903. His wife bore the maiden name of Anna King.

At the usual age Benjamin B. Currell entered the public schools in which he continued to the age of sixteen years, when he entered Bethel Academy. When his education was completed he began learning the confectioner's trade in Fredericksburg in the employ of William Lang. Conditions then were very different from the present day. He was bound out for a term of three years, the first year receiving one dollar per week, the next year two dollars per week and the third year three dollars per week, and the work now done by machinery was then done by hand. His apprenticeship therefore was a period of unremitting toil, but it gave him a most thorough understanding of the business and well qualified him for the attainment of success along that line when his term of indenture was ended. The hours, too, of work were much longer than at the present time, when it seems the tendency on the part of employes is to do as little as possible within a given period. After learning the trade he worked in various parts of the country, being first employed by Julius Rising for two years, after which he spent two years in the employ of the Calpeper bakery. Later he accepted a position at Grafton, West Virginia, and afterward was for two years employed by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, looking after the pastry used on that line. Returning to Virginia he worked for various firms for some time and later went to Mahan, Georgia, where he worked for John Helfrich for one year. He was at Eaton, Georgia, when the yellow fever epidemic broke out and, leaving that part of the country, he went to North Carolina and thence to Waynesburg, Kentucky. Finally he reached Chicago about 1880 and followed his trade in that city until ten years ago, when he came to Cedar Rapids. Here he opened a bakery for the firm of Pettalett & Williams, conducting that for about eighteen months, after which he purchased a small place of Mrs. Andrews, and was so successful in its conduct that after three years he removed to his present location. Here he bought property and built a model bakery which he equipped with the very latest and most improved machinery, and everything new to the trade can be found here. His products are of such excellence that his patronage extends all over the state and his establishment has become recognized as one of the important productive industries of Cedar Rapids.

On the 1st of September, 1882, Mr. Currell was married to Miss Emma B. Linn, a daughter of James Linn, of Christiana, Norway, and unto them have been born three sons and a daughter. Fred, the eldest, born March 16, 1883, was married June 11, 1907, to Miss Florence Rooke, of Cedar Rapids, and is now associated in business with his father. Ray, born in 1890, is also a member of the firm. Anna Laura, fourteen years of age, is attending school and Benjamin F., eleven years of age, completes the family.

Mr. Currell is a member of several fraternities, having been an Odd Fellow for ten years and a Mason for two years, while with the Ancient Order of United





Workmen he is also connected. He likewise belongs to the Baptist church and is interested in questions that relate to the welfare and progress of his adopted city. His success results from the fact that his training was thorough, that he has diligently and closely applied himself to his work at all times, thus winning gradual advancement until the capital saved from his earnings was sufficient to enable him to engage in business for himself.

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### A. A. GILCHRIST

A. A. Gilchrist, who is now successfully engaged in the livery business in Central City, was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, on the 11th of September, 1875, and is a son of Daniel M. and Mary J. (Myers) Gilchrist. His father was also a native of Nova Scotia and continued to make his home there until 1883, when he left Canada and came to Linn county, Iowa, locating in Central City. He lived here until 1893, when he removed to Ryan, Iowa, making his home there until 1909. Since that time he has resided in Frankfort, Spink county, South Dakota. By trade he is a carpenter but spent considerable time as a sailor on the lakes on board a fishing smack. His wife is also living and they are the parents of fourteen children, as follows: William E. and John H., both of South Dakota; A. A., of this review; Lizzie, the wife of George Bailey; Flora, deceased; Daniel M., a resident of South Dakota; Sydney and Sarah, both deceased; Emery, Walter, Artie and Mary, all living in South Dakota; one who died in infancy; and another who died young.

A. A. Gilchrist was reared and educated in much the usual manner of farm boys, attending the district schools and early acquiring an excellent knowledge of agricultural pursuits as he assisted his father in the work of the home farm. He remained under the parental roof until eighteen years of age, when he commenced working by the month as a farm hand and was thus engaged until about five years ago, when he removed to Central City and embarked in the livery business, which he has since conducted with good success, having built up a fine trade.

In 1906 Mr. Gilchrist married Miss Nettie Bateman and during their residence here they have made many warm friends. In his fraternal relations Mr. Gilchrist is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, in which he has served as venerable consul, and he is also connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, while both he and his wife hold membership in the Rebekah order. He takes quite an active interest in public affairs and is now efficiently serving as constable.

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### CHARLES M. MOORE

Charles M. Moore, a resident of Iowa from 1856, his last years being spent in Cedar Rapids, was born in Blackwood, New Jersey, March 17, 1835. His father was F. Josiah Moore, a farmer by occupation, who in the year 1856 left the east and came to Iowa, spending his remaining days in Scott county.

In the schools of his native state Charles M. Moore pursued his education and spent the period of his minority. He was twenty-one years of age when he came with his parents to this state and took up his abode in the city of Davenport. There he engaged in the milling business for a time, but later removed to Grinnell, Iowa, where he continued in the same line of activity. In 1870 he went to Vinton, where he also built a mill, which he conducted successfully until his



removal to Boone, this state. A few years were there passed and in 1895 he came to Cedar Rapids, but here lived retired on account of ill health. Soon after his arrival in Iowa he purchased a tract of land just over the county line in Benton county. He purchased this at the usual government price and began its development, for at that time not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made upon it. He converted it into an excellent farm and it is still owned by the family.

In 1868, in Davenport, Mr. Moore was united in marriage to Miss Aostie D. Campbell, a native of that city and a daughter of Foster Campbell, who was a farmer by occupation. He carried on general agricultural pursuits in Scott county for a long period, but later took up his abode in Davenport, where he lived retired up to the time of his death. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Moore were born six children, all of whom are yet living, namely: Foster C., now a resident of Philadelphia; Charles A., who is a practicing dentist of Sioux City, Iowa; Robert A., an attorney who is living in Kansas City, Missouri; Agnes, the wife of F. J. McNeil, of Eldora, Iowa; Amy and Harold, at home. The death of Mr. Moore occurred in Cedar Rapids in January, 1900. His life had been in harmony with his professions as a member of the Presbyterian church, in the work and activities of which he had always taken a helpful part. He was, moreover, an exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and was in entire sympathy with the beneficent spirit of those societies. He proudly cast his first presidential ballot for John C. Fremont, the first republican candidate, and always remained a staunch supporter of the republican party, feeling that its principles and purposes would best conserve the interests of good government. He was a man of high character, his many sterling traits winning him the love of all who knew him. He embraced many opportunities for doing good, was ever ready to extend a helping hand to a fellow traveler on life's journey or to speak a word of encouragement and kindly counsel. While in active business his integrity was ever above question and fair dealing as well as industry and perseverance constituted features in his success. Such a history embraces the truth of the fact that it is not from the few conspicuous deeds of life that the blessings chiefly come which make the world better, sweeter, happier; but from the countless, lowly ministries of every days, the little faithfulnesses that fill long years.

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#### D. P. LONG

D. P. Long, whose demise occurred on the 4th of October, 1906, was for many years actively and successfully identified with the agricultural interests of Linn county. His birth occurred in Chenango county, New York, on the 28th of January, 1827, his parents being Peter and Lana (Callannan) Long, who were natives of Albany county, New York. He remained at home until seventeen years of age and then went to work on a steamboat, being thus employed for a time. Wishing to see more of the west, he went to California and remained in that state until 1858, when he returned to Linn county, Iowa. For ten years he devoted his attention to the operation of a farm which he had purchased in Maine township and on the expiration of that period sold the property and bought a farm of two hundred and eighty acres in Jackson township, which is now in possession of his widow. He likewise came into possession of another tract of forty-nine acres and thirteen lots in the village of Pariz, all of which real estate is now owned by his widow, who rents the same. In the conduct of his agricultural interests he won a gratifying and well merited measure of success and when he passed away the community lost one of its most respected and substantial citizens.





D. P. LONG





On the 26th of February, 1859, Mr. Long was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary E. Bowen, a native of St. Lawrence county, New York, and a daughter of Nathan and Aurora (Foster) Bowen, who came to Linn county in 1848 and died of fever shortly after their arrival. They were the parents of six children. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Long were born two children, namely: B. W., who follows farming in Jackson township; and Maggie, who was formerly a school teacher and is at home with her mother.

Mr. Long was a democrat in his political views and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, repeatedly elected him to positions of public trust. He capably served as justice of the peace and acted as township trustee and also as a member of the school board for many years. Fraternally he was identified with the Royal Arch Masons, being a worthy exemplar of the craft. He was likewise a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he served as class leader and trustee. His widow and children also belong to that church and take an active and helpful interest in its work. He passed away on the 4th of October, 1906, and his remains were interred in the Blodgett cemetery. Mrs. Long has now resided within the borders of Linn county for more than six decades and has a host of warm friends whose esteem she has won by reason of her many excellent traits of heart and mind.

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#### THOMAS F. COLIGAN

Thomas F. Coligan is numbered among the well-to-do and substantial farmers of Fairfax township, Linn county, for he is today the owner of two hundred and fifty-five acres of land, located on section 10, Fairfax township, all of which is in cultivable condition. He is a native son of the township in which he makes his home, his birth having occurred on a farm on the 7th of November, 1868. His parents were Michael and Ellen (Weir) Coligan, both of whom were natives of Ireland, whence they emigrated in an early day to Iowa, first locating in Iowa City, while later they made a permanent location in Linn county. After having worked for the railroad several years, the father established a home for himself and family on a farm in Fairfax township and although the land, when it came into his possession, was rough and unbroken prairie, in due time he placed it in condition to raise crops and each year gathered good harvests. He acted as division superintendent of the building of sixty miles of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad in Iowa. Both he and his wife died several years ago. Their family numbered two sons and five daughters: Thomas F., of this review; Charles, who is likewise a farmer of Fairfax township; Mary, the wife of L. Lucas, of Cedar Rapids; Clara, who makes her home at Ida Grove, Ida county, this state; Mrs. Nellie McDonough, of Omaha; Jane, also living at Ida Grove; and Caroline, who makes her home in Craig, Nebraska.

Thomas F. Coligan was educated in the schools near his father's home and was reared to the occupation of farming, remaining under the parental roof until he had reached the age of twenty-eight years. He then began business for himself by purchasing one hundred and twenty-five acres of land in Fairfax township, to which he immediately turned his attention and twelve years later he purchased the old homestead farm, his possessions now embracing two hundred and fifty-five acres, all of which is tillable and well improved. He carries on general farming and stock-raising and his well kept farm indicates the progressive and modern methods which he follows in his work and in the improvement of his land.

Mr. Coligan was married on the 22d of April, 1895, to Miss Rose Lefebure, a daughter of Emil Lefebure, the well known importer and breeder of Belgian horses, who made his home in Fairfax. Her brothers, Henry, John and Leander,



are likewise residents of Fairfax. By her marriage Mrs. Coligan has become the mother of four daughters and four sons, namely: Mary C., whose birth occurred March 22, 1897; Vincent T., who was born April 19, 1899; Mildred E., born October 5, 1901; Ethel C., born June 5, 1903; Harold M., who was born September 15, 1905, and died on the 17th of May, 1908; Walter C., whose birth occurred August 26, 1907; Clara M., who was born May 13, 1909; and Charles, born July 23, 1910.

In his political views Mr. Coligan is a democrat, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in St. Mary's Catholic church at Fairfax. His success is well merited, for he has ever followed the most honorable methods in carrying on his business and in dealing with his fellowmen. Having always made his home in Linn county, he is well known to many of our readers, who have for him the warmest regard and esteem.

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### MARK E. BARTLETT

The life record of Mark E. Bartlett is one that proves that success and an honored name may be won simultaneously and that the public official may represent in his service the highest and most unselfish devotion to the general welfare. A native of Ohio, Mr. Bartlett was born in Lorain county, February 3, 1854. His parents, William and Sarah A. (Sturdevant) Bartlett, were natives of Maine, but were married in Ohio where they made their home for a number of years. In 1855 they came to Iowa, settling in Clayton county where the father entered land from the government and developed the farm upon which he made his home throughout his remaining days. He died January 18, 1899, having long survived his wife, who passed away in 1871. In their family were seven children, of whom three are yet living.

Mark E. Bartlett was only about a year old when the family came to Iowa and upon the home farm in Clayton county he was reared. He acquired his education in the district schools and upon leaving home at the age of seventeen years engaged in clerking. After a year and one-half spent in that way he began working for a surveying party with which he remained for some time and then again secured a clerkship. A year later he turned his attention to the painter's trade and after working in the employ of others for a time began contracting in that line and continued in the business until his death. He was accorded a liberal patronage and his business interests constantly developed in volume and importance, making him one of the leading painting contractors in Cedar Rapids, where he took up his abode in 1875. For ten years he also conducted a store in this city, dealing in wall paper and paints, and he occupied a prominent position among the representative and progressive merchants of Cedar Rapids.

On December 6, 1878, Mr. Bartlett was united in marriage to Miss Mary Stebbins, who was born in Delaware county, Ohio, in 1855, a daughter of Joseph and Jane (Young) Stebbins, who were natives of Indiana, but removed to Delaware county in an early day. Her father entered land there and remained a resident of that county until 1858, when he brought his family to Linn county, Iowa. Her mother died in 1884, while Mr. Stebbins survived until 1897. In their family were five children. Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett became the parents of eleven children: Harry C., now deceased; Mabel M., the wife of W. E. Miller of Linn county; Pearl, the wife of F. P. Hanson of Muscatine county, Iowa; J. W., who is living in Nebraska; Ray and Berry, who are deceased; Charles E., at home; Hazel, who has also passed away; Josephine, who is now attending high school; Howard, at home; and one who died in infancy.





The husband and father died January 28, 1901, leaving a widow and six children to mourn his loss. His remains were laid to rest in the Linwood cemetery and his death was a matter of deep regret to many who knew him. He held membership in the Modern Woodmen camp at Cedar Rapids and gave his political support to the republican party. On that ticket he was elected mayor of Kenwood and gave to the town a public spirited business-like and practical administration, characterized by many needed reforms and improvements. He also served as alderman and was a member of the city council and did effective work for the interests of Kenwood. He likewise served on the school board for six years and the cause of education found in him a stalwart champion. He attended the Methodist Episcopal church and was active and helpful in its work. Mrs. Bartlett is also a member of that church and belongs to the Yeomen lodge at Cedar Rapids. She now has a beautiful home in Kenwood Park which she and her husband occupied and where they delighted to extend to their many friends a warm-hearted hospitality. In all of his public duties Mr. Bartlett was actuated by a spirit of unfaltering devotion to the general good and his business life was characterized by unquestioned probity. Wherever he was known he was held in high esteem and most of all where he was best known.

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### FRANK LEIDIGH

Frank Leidigh, owning and operating a well improved farm of one hundred and ninety-four acres in Monroe township, was born in Linn county on the 1st of January, 1860, his parents being George and Susanna (Boyd) Leidigh, who were natives of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and Ashland county, Ohio, respectively. At an early day the father left the Keystone state and took up his abode in Ohio, where he was married in 1856. In the fall of that year he came to Linn county, Iowa, and purchased the farm in Monroe township which has remained his place of residence continuously since. He lived in a log cabin for several years but later erected a more modern and commodious dwelling and has been an interested witness of the many wonderful changes which time and man have wrought in this section of the state during the past half century. His wife is deceased, her death having occurred in December, 1869. Their children were five in number, as follows: Rebecca, who is the wife of Allen Robinett, and resides in Jewell, Kansas; Frank, of this review; Dora, who has passed away; John, living in Monroe township; and Scott, who is a resident of Marion, Iowa.

In his youthful years Frank Leidigh enjoyed the educational advantages afforded by the common schools and also became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist as he assisted his father in the work of the home farm. Following his marriage he was actively engaged in the operation of a rented farm for six years, on the expiration of which period, in 1890, he bought his present place of one hundred and ninety-four acres in Monroe township, to the further cultivation and improvement of which he has since devoted his time and energies. The fields annually yield golden harvests in return for the care and labor which he bestows upon them, and he is well known as a most progressive and enterprising agriculturist. He is also serving as president of the Monroe Telephone Company.

On the 22d of December, 1884, Mr. Leidigh was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Wilson, whose birth occurred in Monroe township, this county. She is a daughter of James P. and Mary (Waters) Wilson. Her father died in March, 1897, but her mother still survives and makes her home with our subject. Mr. and Mrs. Leidigh now have three children, namely: Earl, who married Irene Snyder and is a resident of Monroe township; Gailene; and Wilson.



Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Leidigh has supported the men and measures of the republican party but the honors and emoluments of office have never had any attraction for him, though he served one term as school director. Both he and his wife have many friends in the county where they have always resided, having at all times displayed those sterling traits of character which in every land and clime awaken admiration and regard.

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### WILLIAM WILLIAMS WALKER

The men who blaze the trail for oncoming civilization merit the lasting gratitude of those who come after them; for through their pioneer labors it becomes possible for the settler to enter and possess the land and thus to enjoy its rich fruition. In the prairie regions of the middle west the trail for which the millions of home-seekers waited was blazed by the railroad builder. Among the pioneer railroad builders of the '50s in the region now called the middle west, one of the foremost in achievement was William Williams Walker, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. During the eventful years extending from 1856 to 1872, Mr. Walker surveyed and built hundreds of miles of road in Iowa and hundreds more in other states. Early identified with the Blair and Ames projects, he personally supervised every mile of that portion of the present Northwestern system included in the state of Iowa. He once remarked that he had "walked over every foot of land traversed by the Northwestern from the Mississippi to the Missouri, and that, too, many times over." But that is only a portion of this one man's achievement.

William Williams Walker was born in Middlefield, Otsego county, New York, on the 8th of August, 1834. His parents were William Ames and Sarah Williams (Ingalls) Walker. He received his early education in the Cortland Academy of Homer, New York, the Cherry Valley Academy, of Cherry Valley, New York, and Brown University, of Providence, Rhode Island. In 1853 he entered the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute of Troy, New York, from which institution he was graduated in 1856. His thorough scholarship won for him the highest honors awarded his class—that of valedictorian. Thus thoroughly equipped, he at once entered upon his life work as a civil engineer. Not waiting for something to turn up which might be just to his liking, he started for that mecca of engineers in the '50s—the country beyond the Mississippi. Learning of a construction camp at Mount Vernon, Iowa, he made that his objective point. He was at once employed as a rodman but was not permitted to remain long in that humble capacity. Serious differences arose between the superintendent of construction and the officers of the road, the result of which was that the superintendent and his assistants "pulled out." The officers, not satisfied with the construction from Clinton westward, directed the young engineer, fresh from "Tech.," to return to Clinton and take charge of the work of reconstruction to Mount Vernon. Thus early taking his measure and finding him strong in mental equipment, as he was stalwart physically, John I. Blair placed Mr. Walker in direct line of promotion. His advance thereafter was rapid.

In 1860, at the age of twenty-six, he was made chief engineer of the Cedar Rapids & Missouri River Railroad. The following twelve years covered perhaps the most active and resultful period in his professional career. The proceedings of the American Society of Civil Engineers, of which he was a member from 1880 until his death, chronicle the surveying and building of two hundred and seventy-two miles of road between 1860 and 1870. From 1868 to 1872 he also held the position of chief engineer and general superintendent of the Sioux City & Pacific Railroad. During those years he constructed a hundred additional miles of road. From 1869 to 1872 he also filled the duties of chief engineer of





*W. W. Walker*





the Iowa Falls & Sioux City Railroad and of the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad. Thus early in his thirties Mr. Walker found himself at the head of the vast railroad construction projects known in railroad history as "the Blair and Ames roads." In 1873 he became chief engineer of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Minnesota Railroad. In 1879 he became vice president and general superintendent of the St. Louis, Hannibal & Keokuk Railroad. Later he was also extensively engaged in other railroad enterprises in Missouri and the southwest.

This mere outline of activities would of itself seem to round out a career of achievement. But, along with and following his active field work, from 1860 on into the '80s, Mr. Walker held several positions of honor and trust in the city which he early chose as his home. During portions of that period he was president of the First National Bank of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, president and secretary of the Cedar Rapids Water Company and also president, secretary and treasurer of the Republican Printing Company of Cedar Rapids.

His connection with the press was far from nominal. While editor and general manager of the Cedar Rapids Republican he was elected president of the State Press Association of Iowa. Mr. Walker was a lifelong republican and, both as editor and as a public-spirited citizen, he was wont to express his views with much clearness and force on the political issues of his time. During the periods of his stay in Cedar Rapids he was active in all movements for the moral and material development of his home city and his adopted state. His practical knowledge of all forms of construction and his wide range of experience and observation proved of great service to his fellow citizens. His deep interest in moral and religious movements was a source of positive strength to all worthy causes which commanded his support. For years he was a trustee of Coe College at Cedar Rapids and at one time was urged to become the business head of that institution. In a critical period of its history the college would have suspended but for his stubborn insistence that it should continue.

Mr. Walker was an active and influential church member and on taking up his residence in Cedar Rapids, at the early age of twenty-six, he was elected an elder in the First Presbyterian church of that city — a position which he held until his death. He never departed from the strict observance of the Sabbath to which he was reared. In the most active period of his career, when rival lines were contesting for the rich fields beyond the Missouri, he never permitted any work on the Sabbath; and it was a fact much commented on at the time that Superintendent Walker's men and teams accomplished more in six days, after a whole day's rest, than those of rival roads accomplished in seven days.

Mr. Walker was twice married, first to Mary Ann Hitchcock, a daughter of Noah and Lucy Hitchcock, pioneers of Homer, New York. The wedding occurred on the 15th of October, 1857. Two daughters were born to them: Mary Ingalls Walker, in 1858; and Lucy Hitchcock Walker, in 1861. Both daughters are still living, the elder being the widow of A. W. Lee of Ottumwa, Iowa, founder of the Lee syndicate of newspapers. The younger is the wife of Johnson Brigham of Des Moines, state librarian of Iowa. The death of the first wife occurred April 28, 1862. On September 7, 1864, Mr. Walker married Laura, eldest daughter of John Weare, a pioneer capitalist and banker of Cedar Rapids. His widow survives him, still retaining the old home in Cedar Rapids.

Mr. Walker's ancestry on his father's side was of New England and old English stock — most of them intelligent and progressive tillers of the soil. On his mother's side was the New England family of Ingalls and also the distinctively Connecticut family of Wolcotts. Oliver Wolcott, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, (himself both the son and the father of a governor of Connecticut) was Mr. Walker's great-great-uncle.

Aside from a few addresses published in the engineering periodicals of his day, none of Mr. Walker's professional papers have been preserved. During his



last years, when failing health debarred him from active service in his profession, he wrote a book for distribution among the members of the Walker and Weare families entitled "In Memoriam, John Weare," a valuable addition to the pioneer history of Iowa, portions of which were reprinted in the *Annals of Iowa*. The book was prepared for the printer by Mrs. Walker and published in Des Moines in the year 1897.

The death of Mr. Walker occurred in Chicago on the 23d of September, 1893, in the sixtieth year of his age. His demise was the occasion of many tributes to his professional ability and personal worth. From two of these brief extracts are made. In the *Proceedings of the American Society of Civil Engineers* for 1893 occurs a sketch of his life, concluding with this tribute of respect and regard: "In the private relations of life he was a man without fear or reproach and gained the esteem and confidence of all who became acquainted with him. Lovable by nature, he attracted to him many outside his own family circle, who learned to love him sincerely and respect him greatly." The *Annals of Iowa* for October, 1893, (Charles Aldrich, editor) thus concludes a sketch of this pioneer railroad builder: "He was widely acquainted with the leading men of Iowa for more than thirty years and was highly esteemed by all who knew him. His whole life was one of great usefulness, and his name will long be remembered as one of the pioneer railroad builders of Iowa, commencing, as he did, when the great system that now traverses every county in our state was in its infancy."

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#### FRANCIS A. CASTLE

Francis A. Castle, who in partnership with his brother, Homer D. Castle, operates the homestead farm in Jackson township, is one of the representative men of his section of Linn county. He was born in that township, January 22, 1876, of the marriage of Daniel L. and Melissa M. (Gardner) Castle, the former a native of New York and the latter of Illinois. They accompanied their respective parents to Iowa at an early day, the Gardner family locating in Delaware county, while the Castle family located on what is now known as the Valley farm in Jackson township, Linn county. Following their marriage, the young couple settled on the Castle farm, which Daniel L. Castle operated for a short time and then he purchased the present home of our subject, this tract comprising three hundred and twenty acres, located on section 6, Jackson township. He here made his home until 1902, when he retired from active life and has since lived among his children. The wife and mother died in 1903. The father is an ardent republican in politics and for many years served in various township offices, his labors aiding not a little in the progress and improvement that was carried on in Linn county along agricultural, political and moral lines. He is still an active worker in the Congregational church, to which his wife also belonged.

Francis A. Castle was reared on the home farm, acquiring his early education in the district schools, which was supplemented by a course in the State Normal College at Cedar Falls and in Cedar Rapids Business College. In 1898 he and his brother Homer D. assumed the management of the home farm and have since cultivated the land, which, together with their two sisters, they now own. In connection with their farming interests, they also raise thoroughbred Poland China hogs and shorthorn cattle. They have been very successful in their business affairs and are classed among the progressive and substantial farmers of Jackson township. Francis A. Castle is a republican in politics. His fraternal relations are with Mecca Lodge, No. 523, A. F. & A. M., at Coggon, while his religious faith is that of the Presbyterian church. He is one of the younger rep-





representatives of farming interests in Jackson township, and here, where his entire life has been passed, he has a wide circle of friends.

Homer D. Castle is also a native of Jackson township and is a graduate of the Business College of Cedar Rapids. He attended the State Normal at Cedar Falls and successfully engaged in teaching school in this county for several years. He is now living on the old homestead and is giving his attention to agricultural pursuits. He was married October 29, 1902, to Miss Charlotte M. Trumbull, a daughter of Spencer and Martha Trumbull. She was born in Appleton, Missouri, and received her elementary education in the common schools of Fayette county, Iowa, after which she attended the Upper Iowa University at Fayette.

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### LUCIUS ELY HUBBARD

Lucius Ely Hubbard is now active in the control of one of the most extensive business enterprises of Cedar Rapids as the superintendent of the Hubbard Ice Company. He has been a lifelong resident of this city, his birth having here occurred February 11, 1870. His parents, Charles P. and Martha E. (Haney) Hubbard, are represented elsewhere in this volume. He was reared under the parental roof and the public schools afforded him his educational privileges. His father refused to allow him to work in the ice business, saying that none of his sons should waste their lives in that field, so that at eighteen years of age Lucius E. Hubbard entered the employ of the United States Express Company, which he represented for seven years in Cedar Rapids, Iowa City and Muscatine. He then returned home and notwithstanding the father's early objections, became a factor in the conduct of the extensive ice business which Charles P. Hubbard was building up. After five years' service in various positions, which won him comprehensive knowledge of the business, the son in 1900 was promoted to the superintendency and in 1902, when the Hubbard Ice Company was incorporated, he was again chosen superintendent, in which capacity he has since served. In this connection he has carefully systematized the interests which he controls and the methods which he follows have contributed to the growing success of the enterprise.

On the 17th of May, 1899, Mr. Hubbard was united in marriage to Miss Emma B. Markert, a daughter of Julius H. and Minnie (Weise) Markert, of Cedar Rapids. They are well known and prominent in the social circles of the city and theirs is one of the hospitable homes of Cedar Rapids. Mr. Hubbard has demonstrated his right to be classed with the representative business men here, proving his worth in commercial connections and gaining recognition as one whose judgment is uniformly sound and whose enterprise is unfaltering. In his political views he is a republican but votes independently on local issues.

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### F. A. SIGMUND

The farm of one hundred seventy-two and a half acres, located in Buffalo township, which is now the home of F. A. Sigmund, has been in possession of the family since the early '50s. This farm was also the place of his birth, which occurred on the 9th of November, 1867. His parents were Christopher F. and Mary M. (Rusheck) Sigmund, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Bohemia. In his native land the father served for five years in the army and remained in that country until he reached years of maturity. At that time he emigrated to America and upon reaching St. Louis had but one dollar in his pocket.



He joined the regular army soon after his arrival in this country and took part in the Mexican war. In the early '50s he came to Linn county, locating on the farm which is now owned by our subject, this tract comprising one hundred seventy-two and a half acres. He was here engaged in farming until the outbreak of the Civil war, when, his patriotic spirit being once more aroused, he joined the army, serving at the front for one year. Returning from the scene of hostilities, he resumed work on the farm and continued in that field of activity until his death, which occurred on the homestead December 11, 1884. He was a democrat in his political views, while in religious faith he was a German Lutheran. The mother, who still survives and is now living in Cedar Rapids, is a communicant of the Catholic church.

F. A. Sigmund was trained in the work of the farm during the summer seasons, while in the winter months he pursued his studies in the district schools. He remained at home until his twenty-first year and was then married on the 4th of August, 1888, to Miss Laura E. Grayson, a native of Decatur county, Indiana, but at the time of her marriage a resident of Linn county. The young couple began their domestic life on the farm, Mr. Sigmund operating the homestead as a renter for ten years. In March, 1902, he purchased this tract, and, having in the meantime resided on another farm, he removed to his present home on the 1st of January, 1904, and is here successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits. He has a well improved place, supplied with all modern conveniences, and he today occupies a substantial place among the farmers of Buffalo township.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sigmund have been born five children but only two sons survive, Glen C. and Gale G., both at home. Following in the political footsteps of his father, Mr. Sigmund gives staunch support to the democratic party. He has served as a member of the school board, while in November, 1908, he was elected justice of the peace by a very flattering majority. He belongs to Central City Lodge, No. 284, A. F. & A. M.; to Wapsie Lodge, No. 235, I. O. O. F.; and Justice Lodge, No. 253, K. P. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Having spent almost his entire life on the farm of which he is now the owner, it has been made dear to him through the associations of his early boyhood and youth as well as the experiences of later life, and he now takes a just pride in keeping everything about the place attractive in appearance.

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### WILLIAM G. LOFTUS

On the roster of county officials in Linn county appears the name of William G. Loftus, the popular, capable and efficient sheriff who makes his home in Marion. His birth occurred in Waterloo, Black Hawk county, Iowa, on the 20th of April, 1869, his parents being Michael and Ellen (Fairsee) Loftus. The father, a native of Ireland, emigrated to the United States in 1860, locating in Pennsylvania. Subsequently he removed to Missouri, where he took up land and successfully followed farming for a time. He next went to Freeport, Illinois, and thence to Waterloo, Iowa, while afterward he settled on a farm near Emmetsburg, Iowa. After leaving there he took up his abode in Dallas, Oregon, where he was accidentally killed, losing his life as the result of the caving in of a tunnel. During the period of the Civil war he had served as a member of Company A, Tenth Missouri Cavalry. Unto him and his wife were born six children, namely: Mary; John; William G., of this review; Margaret; Helen, who died in infancy; and Robert. The mother still survives and lives with her son William, who has always provided and cared for her with true filial devotion.

William G. Loftus began his education in the common schools of Freeport, Illinois, but when still very young left school and went to work in a paint shop.





He continued his studies in the evening when the day's toil was over and also pursued a business course in the commercial college of Freeport. Subsequently he went to Helena, Montana, as manager of a wall paper house and twelve months later removed to Great Falls, that state, where he remained for three years. During the following four years he was engaged in the theatrical business and on the expiration of that period located at Cedar Rapids, Linn county, Iowa, where he became associated with his brother in business as a painter and paper hanger.

In November, 1909, as the candidate of the republican party, Mr. Loftus was elected sheriff of Linn county by a large majority. He was the first man to carry every ward in Cedar Rapids and also the youngest man, as regards years of residence, to be elected in this county. He is widely recognized as a reliable and efficient incumbent and is popular with all those who hold themselves amenable to the law, but his name creates terror in the hearts of those who are addicted to crime, for it is well known that he is fearless in the discharge of his duties. On the 7th of June, 1910, he was renominated by the republican party for sheriff, receiving twice as many votes as all the other candidates for that office combined. His nomination practically insures his election in November. He had the unanimous support of every paper in the county except one small weekly. He is a member of the Sons of Veterans and also belongs to various other lodges. No trust reposed in him has ever been betrayed in the slightest degree and his fidelity to honorable, manly principles has ever won for him the good will and friendship of those with whom he has been brought in contact.

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### JAMES H. HUGHES

James H. Hughes, conducting a profitable blacksmithing business in Cedar Rapids, is a native of New York city and a son of Edward and Jane (Newton) Hughes. The former was born in County Monaghan, Ireland, in which country his father also remained to the time of his death. Edward Hughes, however, came to America when a boy and acquired much of his education in New York city, attending school on Twelfth street. He afterward learned the stone mason's trade which he followed for a long period. In 1870, believing that he could provide better opportunities and advantages for his family in the west, he came to Cedar Rapids.

James H. Hughes was one of a family of six children and was quite young at the time of the removal of the family from the east to this city. He is largely indebted to the public school system here for the educational opportunities which he enjoyed and when he put aside his text-books he took up the blacksmith's trade and was employed by others for a time. His first service in this line was in a shop which stands on the site of his present place of business. He was employed by John Meehan for some time and subsequently entered into a partnership with another man. At a later date he purchased his partner's interest and has been conducting the business at his present location for ten years. He is known as one of the best horse-shoers in the county and the other work done in his shop is of an expert character. He has ever been very thorough in his workmanship and reliable in his dealings and has thus been accorded a liberal patronage.

In 1889 Mr. Hughes was united in marriage to Miss Mary R. Seabrook, and unto them has been born a daughter, Adele, who lives at home. She is a graduate of the Convent of St. Joseph and is now engaged in teaching school. The family are prominently connected with the Catholic church, in which they hold membership, while to the work of the church they are generous contributors. Mr. Hughes belongs to the Improved Order of Red Men, to the Royal Arcanum, to the Foresters, and to the Knights of Columbus, No. 903. His political allegiance





is given to the republican party and he is recognized as one of the local leaders in this city. He was elected on the republican ticket to the office of councilman in a democratic ward, a fact which is indicative of his personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him by his fellowmen.

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### JAMES HILL

For about eighteen years James Hill was a resident of Cedar Rapids and during that time lived retired, but for a long period followed farming south of the city and diligently and persistently sought success along honorable lines until he had acquired a competence sufficient to enable him to put aside further business cares. As he is yet remembered by many residents in the city and county, his life history cannot fail to prove of interest to the large majority of the readers of this volume. He was born on the 6th of November, 1834, in Warren county, Ohio, and was a son of James and Deborah (Davis) Hill. The father was a farmer and removed from Virginia to Warren county, Ohio, becoming the first of the family to settle in the latter state. He was numbered among the prominent agriculturists of that locality and there he reared his family.

James Hill acquired his education in the schools of Ohio and when a young man made his way westward, for he believed that the more recently settled states would offer better advantages to one who must depend upon his own resources for success and advancement. After living for a time in Illinois he and the other members of the family came to Linn county, Iowa, where the mother purchased land near the city of Cedar Rapids. There were four sons in the family, James Hill being the third in order of birth, and, like his brothers, he bore an active and helpful part in the work of developing and improving the new farm upon the Iowa prairies.

Having arrived at years of maturity, Mr. Hill sought to establish a home of his own by his marriage, on the 20th of April, 1856, to Miss Aurilla T. Bort, a daughter of Sylvester B. and Lurana (Burdick) Bort. Mrs. Hill was born November 13, 1838. Her people were among the oldest settlers of Linn county, arriving here in 1852. They journeyed westward from Erie county, Pennsylvania, living for a short time in Chicago and spending six years near Clinton, Wisconsin, before settling in Linn county. Mr. and Mrs. Hill became the parents of ten children, but only two of the number are now living. Emery L., the surviving son, married Lydia L. Cooper and their children were Carl, Harrison, Rose, Florence, Lacy, Aurilla, Adrian, Lawrence and two who died in infancy. Nellie L. Hill became the wife of Avery E. Miller, who was born in Linn county and came to Cedar Rapids, where he established himself in the plumbing and heating business. The members of the Hill family now deceased are Rosabelle, Eldora, Sybil, Franklin, Nettie, James, Roy and William Henry. Of these Sybil became the wife of John Knox and they had three children, Levi, Aurilla and Claudie, who were reared by their grandmother, Mrs. Hill. Claudie became the wife of George W. Stofflet and their son, Curtis Knox Stofflet, is a great-grandson of Mrs. Hill. Levi Knox wedded Miss Margaret Devlin and resides in Denver, Colorado, with his wife and son, Clarence, while their daughter, Helen, who was their second born, is deceased. Nettie Hill became the wife of Harry Marchant, who is now living in Scranton, Greene county, Iowa, where he is a successful hardware merchant.

Following his marriage Mr. Hill established his home on a farm south of Cedar Rapids and with characteristic energy took up the work of developing the fields, which he brought under a high state of cultivation. He was diligent and practical in all that he undertook and his progressive methods were also indicated in the









attractive appearance of the farm. He added to it substantial buildings and as farm machinery was improved secured better agricultural implements to facilitate his work. As the years passed on he prospered and at length was in possession of a comfortable competence so that eighteen years prior to his death he took up his abode in Cedar Rapids, his financial resources enabling him to there enjoy the comforts of life. His business integrity was above question and all who knew him recognized in him a straightforward, reliable man. Both he and his wife belonged to the Old Settlers Association and were also members of the Christian church. Their children likewise became members of the church and the family have been very prominent in its work and upbuilding. Mrs. Hill still survives her husband, who passed away November 23, 1902. Hers has been a busy and most useful and helpful life. She not only reared her own children but has also reared and cared for some of her grandchildren and has neglected no opportunity to do good to friend and neighbor.

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#### ALFRED H. NEWMAN

Alfred H. Newman, a well known, respected and influential resident of Cedar Rapids, has since 1905 served as president and general manager of the Cedar Rapids Candy Company, manufacturing confectioners. His birth occurred in Seneca Falls, New York, on the 30th of March, 1857, his parents being Thomas G. and Eliza (Evans) Newman, both of whom were natives of England, in which country they were reared and married. The year 1854 witnessed their emigration to the United States.

Thomas G. Newman was a newspaper man and his first location was at Rochester, New York, but after a short time he took up his abode at Seneca Falls, where he embarked in business on his own account, publishing a religious magazine. In 1860 he journeyed westward to Detroit, Michigan, and five years later went to Harvard, Illinois, where he remained for one year. On the expiration of that period, in 1866, he returned to his native land with his family, but the opportunities and advantages of the new world proved an irresistible attraction and after settling up his business in England he again came to America in 1869, locating in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The following year he established the Daily Observer and began operating the plant by power, being with one exception the first man in Iowa to utilize steam power in a printing office. He was also the pioneer in the use of a cylinder printing press in Cedar Rapids. In 1871 he sold the plant, which was then reorganized as a stock company and became known as the Republican Printing Company, Judge George Greene acting as its first president. Thomas G. Newman next removed to Chicago and on leaving the western metropolis went to San Francisco, where he was prominently identified with journalistic interests until the time of his demise in March, 1903, passing away in his seventieth year. His political views were in accord with the principles of the democracy and he was long a worthy exemplar of the Masonic fraternity, serving as worshipful master of Golden Rule Lodge in Chicago for thirteen years. His widow still survives and makes her home in San Francisco.

Alfred H. Newman was reared under the parental roof and obtained his education in the public schools. When but twelve years of age he began learning the newspaper business under the direction of his father, who was a thorough and strict disciplinarian, and the association between father and son was maintained with mutual pleasure and profit until the latter had reached his thirty-first year, with the exception of the two years from 1875 until 1877. After the removal of the father to Chicago in 1875, Mr. Newman of this review established himself in the publishing business, issuing a weekly newspaper called The Standard and also



doing much job printing. He had the distinction of publishing the first annual catalogue ever published for Coe College, issuing the same without cost to the institution. In 1877 he disposed of his plant and went to Chicago, where he joined his father in the publication of the American Bee Journal, being thus engaged until 1892. His wife's parents, who lived in Cedar Rapids, then persuaded him to return to this city and here he has since continued to reside.

Soon after he had taken up his abode in Cedar Rapids a stock company was formed to purchase the business of W. A. Buchanan & Company, manufacturing confectioners, and the concern was then reorganized as the Buchanan Candy & Fruit Company, Mr. Newman being made its secretary and treasurer. Eighteen months later the style of the firm was changed to the Cedar Rapids Candy Company. In 1905 Mr. Newman was made president and general manager of the concern and in this responsible position has since carefully controlled its interests, ever maintaining a commercial policy that is unassailable from the standpoint of integrity and fair dealing. During the past ten years the business has been more than doubled and the firm has recently erected a hundred thousand dollar structure that is indeed a credit to Cedar Rapids. It is four stories in height, has two basements and is entirely of reinforced concrete and steel construction. Mr. Newman is a member of the Cedar Rapids Commercial Club and for three years served as its president. While acting in that capacity he was instrumental in the organization of the Great Western Creamery Company and, being later obliged to take it over, is now the sole owner of the enterprise.

On the 6th of May, 1880, Mr. Newman was united in marriage to Miss Lillian M. Rickel, a daughter of Henry Rickel, who is a prominent attorney and the vice president of the Cedar Rapids Candy Company. They have two children, namely: John H., who is associated with his father in business; and Irene, the wife of John H. Herron, secretary and general manager of the Great Western Creamery Company.

Mr. Newman is a popular member of the Cedar Rapids Commercial Club and the Automobile Club. Both he and his wife belong to the First Presbyterian church, the teachings of which they exemplify in their daily lives. While Mr. Newman enjoys rationally the material comforts of life, the most enduring reward of his work as a business man he considers to be the respect and esteem of his fellowmen, the real, honest personal friendship and confidence of those with whom he has come in contact.

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### JACOB WETZEL

Active in the affairs of Cedar Rapids and much interested in its growth and progress during the period of his residence here, Jacob Wetzel lived to witness its transformation from a town of comparatively little industrial and commercial importance to one of the thriving cities of the state. He was born in France in 1813 and pursued his education in the schools of that country. After leaving school he served for seven years in the army of France under Louis Phillipe. On coming to America he was located for a time at Cleveland, Ohio.

Before the period of extensive railroad building in Iowa, whereby almost every little town and hamlet in the state is connected with the outside world by railway lines, Mr. Wetzel made his way to Cedar Rapids, driving across the country from Iowa City, Iowa, in a wagon. His home at first was at the corner of Fifth street and Eighth avenue and later on Fourth avenue between Seventh and Eighth, but he resided for many years at the intersection of Seventh and B avenue. Throughout the period of his residence here he manifested a deep, abiding and helpful interest in the city and its progress, cooperating in many





movements for its growth and doing all in his power to promote its advancement along lines that have wrought for its permanent good. He was at different times the owner of considerable property here and was the builder of the Eagle brewery, which he sold in 1869 to Mr. Magnus. From time to time he made investment in real estate until his property holdings were quite extensive and he was thus able to leave his family in very comfortable financial circumstances.

Mr. Wetzel was married to Margaret B. Biermacher, a daughter of Peter John and Madeline (Schwartz) Biermacher, and a native of France. Her uncle was a soldier in the Napoleonic wars. Her family, crossing the Atlantic to the new world, settled at Cleveland, Ohio, in a very early day, and were active in the pioneer progress and development of that city. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wetzel were born two daughters and a son, Mary, John and Ida, the last named being, now Mrs. T. A. Wilcox, of Cedar Rapids. In 1870 Mr. and Mrs. Wetzel traveled abroad, visiting their native land and many points of interest in Europe. Returning to Cedar Rapids Mr. Wetzel continued to make his home here until his death, which occurred on the 8th of July, 1880, when he was sixty-seven years of age. He had watched the city emerge from villagehood to take on the habiliments of metropolitan existence and his public spirit was manifest again and again by his active and tangible support of measures and movements for the public good. For many years he was identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

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### HENRY RICKEL

Henry Rickel, prominently connected with the profession which has important bearing upon the progress and stability of every community, and which has always been considered as conserving the public interests, as well as protecting life and property, has now practiced at the Cedar Rapids bar for almost a third of a century and throughout this period has maintained a position of distinctive preferment as an able and learned lawyer. Moreover he has proven his worth in commercial circles and has extended his efforts into various fields of business which have profited by his sound and discriminating judgment.

A native of Ohio, Mr. Rickel was born in Richland county, August 16, 1835, a son of Samuel and Barbara (Smith) Rickel, who were natives of Bedford county, Pennsylvania. As the name indicates, the family is of German origin, but has long been represented in America, for in the seventeenth century Henry Rickel, leaving his home at Frankfort-on-the-Main, braving the dangers incident to an ocean voyage at that time, took up his abode in the state of Pennsylvania. Representatives of the family left their impress upon important events of colonial days and several of the name participated in the Revolutionary war, including a great-uncle of Henry Rickel, who was killed at the battle of Brandywine. The paternal grandmother of Mr. Rickel was in her maidenhood a Miss Walters, whose people came to this country from Holland and were among the early Dutch land-owners of New York. He is also descended from ancestry from Frankfort-on-the-Main, Germany, who came to America in pioneer times. His grandmother in the maternal line was a Miss Cleve, of an English family.

Samuel Rickel in early life learned the cabinet-making trade, which he continued to follow for many years. In 1839 he became a resident of Springfield, Sangamon county, Illinois, the capital city of that state being at the time only a little town. There he continued to follow his trade for a few years, after which he made his way northward to Galena, Illinois, then the leading town in the central Mississippi valley. It was there that all Iowa pioneers secured their supplies before crossing the prairies of this state, and at that point they purchased





timber which came from the northern pineries. For ten years Mr. Rickel remained a resident of Illinois, and in 1849 went with his family to Elkader, Clayton county, Iowa, which at that time contained only two or three hundred inhabitants. There he established a cabinet-making shop and with the assistance of his son Henry manufactured most of the furniture used by the early settlers of that section for many miles around. He died at West Union, Iowa, in 1876, and his widow long survived him, retaining her mental and physical faculties unimpaired to a remarkable old age. She had passed the ninety-second milestone of life's journey when called to her final rest. Their family consisted of six children, of whom Henry Rickel is the eldest. The others are: Elizabeth, who is the wife of N. S. Fisk and a resident of Wolf Creek, Wisconsin; Sophronia, the wife of Amos White, of West Union, Iowa; and Esther, Alice and Emma, all deceased.

Through centuries the name of Henry has again and again appeared in the Rickel family. He who now bears it, a well known lawyer and business man of Cedar Rapids, was but four years old when his parents removed from Ohio to Illinois, and in one of the old time log school houses of Sangamon county he pursued his education. He still has vivid recollections of the teacher who wore a blue coat with brass buttons and had firm belief in the old adage "Spare the rod and spoil the child." He was for a time a student in the select school at West Union, Iowa, under the direction of Professor J. E. Cooke, a noted educator of that day, and while there he learned the trades of the cabinet maker and wood turner, becoming an expert workman. His ability in that line enabled him to readily secure work and he was busily occupied with such labor until 1856. The following year he entered business circles at West Union in connection with the hardware trade, and afterward formed a partnership with D. G. Huffman, conducting a book and stationery business under the firm style of Rickel & Huffman, conducting a wholesale house at McGregor and a retail store in West Union. This business was continued until 1860, when the discovery of gold at Pike's Peak led Mr. Rickel to join three young men comrades and start with teams for the mountains of Colorado. After thirty days of travel they reached their destination and soon found that they would be unable to gain the success which they had hoped for at placer mining. On the return trip they visited several Indian tribes and enjoyed a number of buffalo hunts. Such are some of the broadening experiences which have come to Mr. Rickel, and it has been characteristic of him that from each experience of life he has learned the lesson which it has contained.

It was subsequent to his return from Colorado that Mr. Rickel entered upon the execution of a plan to study law and engage in practice before the bar. He began his reading with Hon. L. L. Ainsworth as his preceptor and in 1862 was associated with him in raising a company for active service in the Civil war. The troops were mustered into the United States service at Davenport as Company C, Sixth Iowa Cavalry, with Mr. Ainsworth as captain and Mr. Rickel as lieutenant. They were engaged in duty along the frontier among the Sioux Indians on the Upper Missouri. In June, 1864, ill health forced Mr. Rickel to resign. Before his enlistment he had assisted in raising twelve companies. His personal magnetism and oratory had made him a splendid recruiting officer and besides he was animated by firm belief in the justice of the cause which he espoused. Following his return to Iowa he continued his law studies under the direction of Judge McClintock, of West Union, with whom he entered into partnership following his admission to the bar in 1866. The relations between them were maintained until 1872, although in 1870 Mr. Rickel had joined Hon. W. V. Allen, once United States senator from Nebraska, in establishing a private office at Fayette, Iowa. For several years Mr. Rickel was a partner of Hon. W. E. Fuller, of West Union, Iowa, who has later been a member of congress from Iowa, and was



also assistant United States attorney general at Washington, D. C., having charge of the Spanish war claim.

Since 1878 Mr. Rickel has been a resident of Cedar Rapids and here entered upon practice in connection with A. W. West and A. V. Eastman under the firm style of Rickel, West & Eastman. When Mr. West left the city two years later Hon. John T. Stoneman, afterward superior judge, joined the firm and practice was thereafter continued under the name of Stoneman, Rickel & Eastman, until 1884, when Mr. Rickel withdrew and entered into partnership with E. H. Crocker, the firm of Rickel & Crocker continuing successfully in practice until April 1, 1901, when they were joined by P. W. Tourtellot. Their practice has ever been large and of a distinctively representative character, Mr. Rickel, like his associates, having been accorded a prominent place as a leading attorney. There are few lawyers who win a larger percentage of cases before either judge or jury. He convinces by his concise statement of law and facts rather than by flights of oratory, and so high is the respect for his legal ability and integrity that his assertions in court are seldom questioned seriously. Whatever he does is for the best interests of his clients and for the honor of his profession, and no man gives more unqualified allegiance or riper ability.

While the practice of law has been the main feature in the life work of Mr. Rickel, he has also been interested in other business enterprises. In 1894 he became president and is now vice president of the Cedar Rapids Candy Company which was organized and succeeded to the business of the Buchanan Candy & Fruit Company. They are manufacturers and jobbers of candies which they sell throughout Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota and South Dakota, the house being represented on the road by several traveling salesmen, while the factory furnishes employment to almost one hundred people. Mr. Rickel is also connected with various mining companies in California.

A pleasant home life had its beginning in the marriage of Mr. Rickel on the 14th of October, 1857, to Miss Susan Brown, a native of Yates county, New York, and a daughter of Oliver A. and Susan Brown, of Fayette county, Iowa. They were the parents of two children: Willie, who died at the age of eleven years; and Lillian M., now the wife of A. H. Newman, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. Mrs. Rickel has become very active and prominent in charitable and benevolent work, accomplishing especially notable results as president of the board of managers of the Home for Aged Women in Cedar Rapids. She has also bestowed large charity upon individuals and in all such work her efforts are prompted by a kindly and tactful spirit which makes the recipient sure of her sympathy. Both Mr. and Mrs. Rickel hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and his fraternal relations are with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, G. A. R., and the Loyal Legion.

Since age conferred the right of franchise upon Henry Rickel he has voted with the men in the republican ranks, and while living in West Union filled the office of mayor for several years. Still higher political honors were accorded him in his election to the seventeenth general assembly, yet he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. On the contrary he has preferred that his public work shall be that of individual effort and influence rather than of service in public office. His position upon the temperance question has never been an equivocal one and he has put forth active aid for temperance reform in Iowa, delivering many lectures upon the subject in the northern part of the state and taking active part in enforcing the prohibitory law. Carlyle has said "The story of any man's life would have interest and value if truly told," and in presenting the history of Mr. Rickel we have given to our readers the record of one who has swayed men toward good with the force of his example, who has never allowed per-





sonal interests nor ambitions to dwarf his public spirit or activities. His feelings have ever found expression in prompt action rather than in theory and he has been aptly termed a man of purpose. His breadth of thought has not only seen possibilities for his own advancement but for the city's development, and his patriotism has prompted him to utilize the latter as quickly and as effectively as the former.

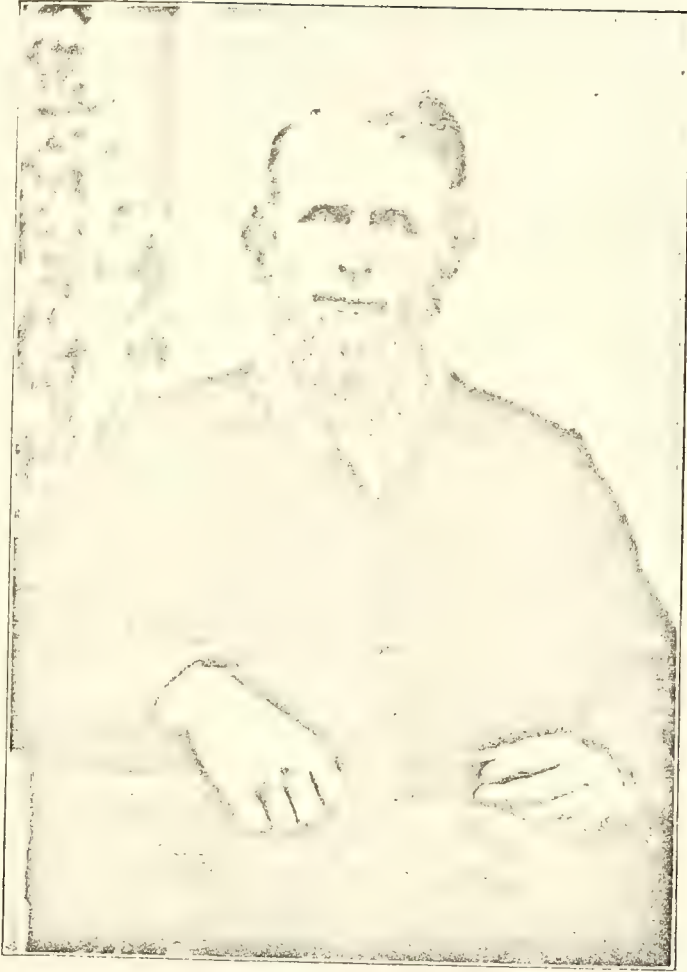
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### MYRON D. WILLIAMS

Through the years of his residence in Linn county Myron D. Williams followed the occupation of farming and was respected by his fellow-citizens because of his loyalty to the principles of honorable and upright manhood. He was born in the state of New York, February 15, 1835, a son of David and Lany (Hess) Williams, both natives of the state of New York.

The grandfather, David Williams, Sr., was a man of marked strength of character, respected by all for his integrity and sterling worth. Moreover, he was one of the heroes of the Revolutionary war and in his later years the stories of his military experience were eagerly listened to by the representatives of the younger generation. He frequently went to the nearby town where he would join in the celebration of Independence Day, on which occasions he was given a conspicuous place and received the honors and plaudits of the public. At such times the speakers would turn to the old major, as he was usually called, and employing their gifts of oratory, would tender to him the thanks of a grateful country. After which they would call upon the rising generation to emulate his patriotism. He was a very liberal and generous-spirited man and therefore accumulated but a small property. His political views were in accord with the principles of the republican party of which Thomas Jefferson was the leader. Although his early educational opportunities were limited, he was always fond of reading and in this way and by experience he acquired a good fund of general information. Although he was not a member of any church he frequently attended divine services and also occasionally opened his home that religious services might be held therein. In the fall of 1830 the city of New York sent by special messenger to invite him to be present as a guest at the celebration of the French Revolution on which occasion, with Enoch Crosby, another hero of 1776, and two others, he rode in an elegant carriage at the head of the procession. The four veterans of the Revolutionary war received enthusiastic applause all along the line of march, while in the city he visited with the mayor and other distinguished residents. Honor was shown him on every hand, the courtesies of the theatres and the schools were extended him and at one school a silver cup was presented to him and at another a silver-headed cane, the stem of which was made from a part of the "chevaux de Frise" used near West Point during the Revolution. While on this visit he was also presented with an elegant horse and carriage and harness by the mayor of the city. Soon after his visit to New York he began to fail rapidly, for the excitement attendant thereon was undoubtedly too much for one of his age and retired habits. He passed away at sunset, on the 2nd of August, 1831. He was the last survivor of the captors of Major Andre and in the cemetery where he was laid to rest there was erected over his grave a white marble monument twenty-three feet and nine inches in height. On one side appears the inscription "David Williams, died August 2, 1831, aged seventy-six years, six months and eight days." On another side are inscribed the words: "By authority of congress in 1780 a silver medal was voted to them and presented to the captors of Major Andre by General George Washington at a dinner to which he invited them





MYRON D. WILLIAMS



while the army was encamped near West Point." While on the north side of the monument appeared General Washington's letter to the president of congress, in October, 1780. "The parties that took Major Andre acted in such a manner as does them the highest honor and proves them to be men of great virtue." On the west side of the monument was inscribed: "Nancy Benedict, wife of David Williams, died August 5, 1844, at the age of eighty-seven years, six months and eight days."

David Williams, Jr., the father of Myron D. Williams, died in the state of New York. The son remained with his parents until twenty-two years of age, after which he removed westward to Scott county, Iowa, where he was united in marriage to Miss Nancy J. Conklin, who was born in Dutchess county, New York, October 16, 1846. Her parents were William B. and Margaret A. (Smith) Conklin, who were also natives of the state of New York, and on going to Scott county, Iowa, in 1861, took up their abode on the farm which remained their home for four years. They then became residents of Kendall county, Illinois, where the father died in 1881, his widow afterward making her home with her daughter, Mrs. Williams. She survived her husband for more than two decades, passing away October 20, 1903.

Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Williams began domestic life upon a farm in Scott county where they lived for four years. They then came to Linn county and Mr. Williams purchased the farm which is now owned and occupied by his widow. It is a tract of eighty acres of rich land upon which he made many improvements while he brought the fields under a high state of cultivation. He was diligent and persistent in his farm work and as the years passed his labors were crowned with success.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Williams were born three children: Isban Q., living in Linn county; David W., who resides upon the old homestead with his mother and in addition to the cultivation of the fields engages in the raising and feeding of hogs and horses; and Nina I., the wife of John W. Scott of Kenwood Park, Linn county, and they have two children, Beryl and Fern. The death of Mr. Williams occurred April 22, 1902, and he was laid to rest in Oak Shade cemetery at Marion. He had commanded the good will of all during his residence in this county and his death was deeply regretted by many friends as well as his immediate family. Mrs. Williams yet lives on the old homestead, is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and a lady of many good qualities, highly esteemed by all who know her.

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### JAMES A. DUNN

James A. Dunn, who owns and operates a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Spring Grove township, is engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He is a native of that township, his birth having occurred upon his father's homestead, just a short distance from where he now lives, on the 16th of April, 1881. He is a son of James and Mary Dunn, natives of Iowa, and grandson of those pioneers, Alexander and Susan Dunn, who settled in Clinton county, this state, in 1837. The father came to Linn county in 1875 with his wife and since that time has resided here, having become one of the most prominent citizens and representative men of the community.

James A. Dunn was reared to farm life and attended the district schools of Spring Grove township, where he received his education. He was married at the age of twenty-four years and, until that event transpired, made his home with his parents, assisting his father with the work upon the large farm owned by the latter. On September 5, 1905, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Dunn and





Miss Esther Moles, a daughter of John and Ella Moles, both of whom were natives of Iowa. They have become the parents of one son, Gifford, who was born in 1906.

Following their marriage Mr. Dunn purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land adjoining that occupied and owned by his father and has continued to live upon the place since that time. He has greatly improved its condition, recently erecting an excellent barn thirty-three by forty feet, has built an addition to his house and installed a forty-foot steel-tower wind-mill of latest design. While a republican in politics Mr. Dunn takes little interest, other than as a voter, in the political affairs of the county. He is serving his township in the capacity of secretary of the school board but does not desire political preferment of any kind. With his wife he holds membership in the Methodist church. He is a man whose enterprise has won him prosperity and he is rated as one of the sound and honest men of the community.

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### HENRY BENNETT

Henry Bennett, one of the best known insurance men in Iowa, his opinions being largely accepted as authority upon all matters of insurance, was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, on the 29th of October, 1850. His parents were Henry and Angeline (Fife) Bennett. The father, a native of York, England, was but three years of age when brought to the United States by his parents, who located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and some time later removed to Pittsburg, that state. In that city he was married and also learned the trade of a merchant tailor. Removing westward in 1855, he took up his abode in Iowa City, Iowa, and two years later came to Cedar Rapids, where for a number of years he was identified with the merchant tailoring business. His demise occurred in that city in 1903, when he had attained the age of seventy-six years, and, his wife surviving him for only one year, was called to her final rest in 1904.

Henry Bennett was reared under the parental roof and obtained his education in the grammar and high schools of Cedar Rapids. In June, 1862, when not yet twelve years of age, he went to work for a farmer living near Cedar Rapids, by whom he was employed during the entire summer, receiving his board and five dollars in cash for his season's work. The second summer he was paid twenty dollars and during the two following summers he received a wage of ten dollars per month. After completing his education he entered the law office of West & Eastman, with whom he was associated in the law and insurance business for about fifteen years. A compact of fire insurance agents was organized in 1883 to promote a uniform practice in fire underwriting and Mr. Bennett was appointed by the companies manager of the organization. An anti-compact law was enacted by the legislature in 1896 by which it was made unlawful for companies and their representatives to enter into any understanding or agreement relating to the rates to be charged for insurance or the manner of transacting the business within the state, whereupon Mr. Bennett organized an independent rating bureau, which he successfully conducted for a number of years, selling his rates, maps and other published information to the companies and others. He is a stockholder in several local corporations, and well deserves representation in this volume as one of the best known, most influential and prosperous citizens of Cedar Rapids.

In 1883 Mr. Bennett was united in marriage to Miss Ella J. Evans, a daughter of Abel Evans, who was one of the early settlers of Cedar Rapids and is now deceased. Unto them have been born six children, namely: Helen E., the wife of



Emmett J. Carter, of Cedar Rapids; Margaret, who has passed away; Max, who is pursuing his studies at the University of Michigan; Mary, who is pursuing a course of domestic science at the Iowa State College; Murray E., deceased; and Alice.

Mr. Bennett gives stalwart allegiance to the men and measures of the democratic party and in the spring of 1910 was elected councilman of the city of Cedar Rapids under the commission plan of government, and was appointed superintendent of department of public safety. He belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Young Men's Christian Association and is also a valued member of the Commercial Club and the Country Club. Religiously he is identified with the Methodist Episcopal church. He is widely and favorably known throughout the county which has been his home for more than a half century, having those qualities of kindly consideration and deference for the opinions of others which always give rise to warm friendship and esteem. Having attained success by reason of his own strength of character and persistency of purpose, he well merits the proud American title of a self-made man.

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#### F. A. HOBSON

F. A. Hobson, who is operating the old homestead farm in Otter Creek township, is numbered among the progressive and enterprising farmers of his section of Linn county. He is a native of Illinois, born in Winnebago county, July 3, 1867, but his parents, John and Elecia (Tompkins) Hobson, were both natives of Canada. Upon crossing the border into the United States they first settled in Illinois, where they lived until 1876 and then made a permanent location in Linn county, settling on the farm that is now owned and operated by the son. The father died April 14, 1895, while the mother, surviving for a few years, was called to her final rest July 3, 1907.

F. A. Hobson remained at home until he had attained his majority, being a little lad of nine years at the time the family removed from the Prairie state to Linn county. When he started out in life on his own account he returned to Illinois and for one year thereafter was engaged in the butchering business with his brother. At the end of that period he once more came to Iowa, spending one year as a clerk in a dry-goods store in Cedar Rapids. He was then for three years a fireman in the employ of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railroad Company. In 1895, following his father's death, he assumed the management of the homestead farm, on which he has resided to the present time. This tract comprises one hundred and sixty acres of well improved land and Mr. Hobson uses the latest improved machinery to facilitate his labors, so that good results follow.

In 1895 Mr. Hobson further made arrangements for having a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Della Simmen, a daughter of Nicholas and Margaret Simmen, who were natives of Switzerland and emigrated to America in 1872. From that date until 1900 Mr. Simmen was identified with the farming interests of Iowa but in the latter year removed to Marion, where he spent seven years, or until his wife died February 28, 1907. Following her demise, the father returned to the farm and has since made his home with his son. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hobson have been born two sons: Carl, born March 18, 1897; and Leo F., whose birth occurred August 19, 1899. Both are with their parents.





Although Mr. Hobson is a staunch supporter of the principles of democracy, he is not an office seeker. He is a Modern Woodman, belonging to Alburnett Camp, No. 9286. In Linn county, where much of his life has been passed, he is well and favorably known. Steadily pursuing his way, undeterred by the obstacles and difficulties in his path, he is achieving a prosperity of which he has every reason to be proud.

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### SIMON BIXBY

The name of Bixby is one of the first inscribed on the pages of Linn county's history. He whose name introduces this review was born in Canada in 1800 and was of French lineage. On crossing the border into the United States he made his way to Bellevue, Ohio, and after residing there for some time came to Linn county, arriving about 1837. Even the eastern section of the state was then but sparsely settled and nine years elapsed before Iowa was admitted to the Union. The central and western portions of the state were largely a wild and unbroken prairie, over which Indian tribes still roamed and wild animals were frequently seen. The work of progress and development seemed scarcely begun and yet a few venturesome spirits had planted the seed of civilization on this western frontier. Mr. Bixby at once took his part in the work of developing and improving the section of the state in which he located. He possessed natural mechanical ability and always worked along mechanical lines. He established his home in Marion, where he spent his remaining days.

In 1825 was celebrated the marriage of Simon Bixby and Miss Hannah Stone, a daughter of Isaac Stone, of Vermont. She was descended from the early Puritans, being able to trace her ancestry back to one of the passengers on the Mayflower. Mr. and Mrs. Bixby became the parents of four children, the eldest being Dr. Nahum Bixby, who was born July 31, 1830, and died January 10, 1879. He was a surgeon of the Civil war and married Rebecca Elliott, who was born December 26, 1835. Emory Bixby, the second son, was born May 7, 1836, and also aided in the defense of his country during the Civil war. He married Lydia Bardwell, a daughter of Dr. Bardwell, one of the pioneer physicians and surgeons of Linn county. Judson, the third son, died in infancy.

Jesse C. Bixby, the youngest of this family, was born June 6, 1848. In 1862 he began serving an apprenticeship to the printer's trade in the office of the Marion Register and later rose to the position of foreman. He subsequently became one of the editors and owners of that paper, with which he was connected up to the time of his death, which occurred on the 13th of February, 1903. At that time he was the oldest journalist in continuous service in Linn county and was universally esteemed by every member of the craft as well as by all who knew him. He was a man respected most by those who knew him best. Kind and generous hearted, he revered religion and was of simple tastes and temperate habits. Had he given his attention to editorial work he would undoubtedly have become one of the best writers connected with the Iowa press. He seemed to have no inclination for political strife but was a writer of much more than ordinary ability.

In 1866 Jesse C. Bixby was united in marriage to Miss Alice Oakley, a daughter of Merritt and Susan (Morgan) Oakley. Her father was born in Essex county, New York, and in early life learned the miller's trade, becoming a good workman. He removed to the west in 1855, establishing his home in Marion, where he followed his trade until after the outbreak of the Civil war, when, responding to the country's call for troops, he offered his services to the government and enlisted as a member of the Sixth Iowa Cavalry under Colonel Pollock.





JESSE BIXBY



He became a corporal and served for three years and three months, for following the expiration of his first term of enlistment he had again joined the army as a member of the same regiment. His military record was altogether creditable and, indeed, his whole life conformed to a high standard of manhood and citizenship. He died on the 13th of May, 1886, and is still survived by his widow, Mrs. Susan Oakley, who now makes her home with her daughter, on the old Bixby homestead, at the advanced age of eighty-four years. In 1855 she became the first public-school teacher in Marysville, Benton county, Iowa, where she taught for several terms. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Oakley were born two children, the elder being George, who married Addie Burke and has a daughter, Mary.

Alice Oakley, the younger of the two, was born in Lawrenceville, Pennsylvania, February 5, 1850, and was brought to Iowa by her parents in her early girlhood days. In acquiring her education she first attended the public schools and afterward became a pupil in a seminary. In 1866 she gave her hand in marriage to Jesse C. Bixby and they traveled life's journey happily together for almost four decades, being separated by the death of the husband. While editor of the Marion Register he was ably assisted in his editorial work by his wife as associate editor. She has always taken an active interest in literature and art and has become an excellent short story writer and a very clever artist. Mrs. Bixby is a member of the Eastern Star, Masonic order of True Kindred, American Woman's League and also holds a membership in the Chicago South Side Club. She is a member of the Methodist church and is active in all departments of church work. She is a great reader and extensive traveler having visited nearly every large city, resorts and places of interest in the United States, Canada and Mexico and contributed interesting articles for the press on these travels. Since her husband's death much of her life has been spent in Chicago.

Mr. Bixby was a popular member of the Masonic fraternity and also of the Ancient Order of United Workman. Unto him and his wife was born one child, Hal C., who married Laura Clark. He became interested in the printing business with his father in the office of the Marion Register and established an amateur paper called the Bixby Bazoo. He subsequently removed to Chicago, where he accepted a position in one of the largest printing establishments in that city, of which he is today foreman, and has now been connected with that office for eighteen years. He still publishes the Bixby Bazoo in Magazine form as the official organ of the Western Amateur Press Association and is also a member of the Associated Press. He is chairman of the Printers' Union of the office with which he is connected.

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### JAMES P. SMITH

James P. Smith is numbered among the substantial farmers of Boulder township, where he owns a valuable farm of one hundred and sixty acres, located on section 15. He was born in Lawrence county, Pennsylvania, in 1846, of the marriage of David and Margaret (Patten) Smith, who were likewise natives of the Keystone state. The mother died when her son was but two years of age, after which the father came to Iowa, settling on a tract of rented land in Jackson county and making it his home for eight years. At the end of that time he found himself in possession of a capital which justified his purchase of land and he accordingly bought one hundred and twenty acres in Boulder township, Linn county. He improved and cultivated his land for many years but spent his last days in retirement.

James P. Smith of this review was reared under the parental roof and acquired his education in the public schools. When thirty years of age he began farming





on his own account, having purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Clay county, Iowa. After seven years he disposed of that land and invested his money in one hundred and sixty acres on section 15, Boulder township. This is one of the best improved farms in Linn county, due to the efforts and labors of Mr. Smith. He is carrying on a successful business as a general farmer and stock-raiser, handling some very fine grades of animals.

On the 24th of December, 1876, Mr. Smith was married to Miss Juliet Geheringer, a daughter of Louise and Catherine (Drexler) Geheringer, who were natives of Germany and upon their emigration to the new world located on a farm in Jackson township, Linn county. Mr. Geheringer was employed at farm labor for several years but eventually became the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of land in Boulder township, whereon he and his wife made their home for many years but they are now living retired in Prairieburg. Mrs. Smith is the only child born to her parents, while Mr. Smith is one of a family of seven. Their marriage has likewise been blessed with seven children, as follows: Cora, the wife of Louis Pelard; Louis; Minnie and Maud, twins, the former the wife of W. Burnside, and the latter the wife of Fred Jousie; Ida, the wife of Seward Smith; Lester; and Ruby.

Mr. Smith is a republican in politics and for ten years served on the school board but otherwise has filled no public office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his private business affairs. He and his wife are devoted members of the Presbyterian church. They are people of the highest respectability and worth and fully merit the high esteem in which they are held.

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#### JOHN F. JANKO

John F. Janko gives his attention to the operation of a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, located on section 32, College township. He was born in Monroe, Johnson county, Iowa, December 12, 1867, a son of John and Elizabeth Janko, the former a son of John and Helena Janko. The grandfather of our subject is still living at the advanced age of ninety-three years, making his home in this state on the line between Johnson and Linn counties. The parents of our subject were both born in Bohemia and in 1854 emigrated to America, at which time they made a settlement in Johnson county on eighty acres of unimproved land. They endured all the hardships and privations incident to the establishment of a home in a new country but with characteristic energy the father developed and improved his land and as time passed he invested in more property, thus becoming one of the substantial farmers of this section of the state. In later life he spent thirteen years in the conduct of a lumber business at Ely, Linn county, but for the past three years has lived retired in Cedar Rapids, having now reached the age of seventy years. His wife, however, is deceased, her death occurring in June, 1894.

John F. Janko was reared on the home farm in Johnson county, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the farmer boy, and he attended the public schools to the age of sixteen years. After completing his education he gave his entire time to assisting in the farm work and at the age of twenty-two years was married and started out in life for himself. He is now the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of well improved land, situated on section 32, College township, all of which is tillable, while on the place are found good buildings adequate to his needs. He raises wheat, corn and oats and devotes a portion of his place to pasturage, for he keeps both cattle and hogs, raising thoroughbred Hereford cattle. Although he started out with but little of this world's goods, through his own energy and perseverance



he has accumulated a good property and is numbered among the substantial residents of this section of the state.

Mr. Janko was married on the 22d of April, 1889, to Miss Frances Cuhel, a daughter of Vincent and Frances Cuhel, farming people of College township. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Janko has been blessed with two daughters and two sons: Agnes, who was born December 8, 1892; Milo, born August 8, 1900; Charles, whose birth occurred March 4, 1902; and Caroline, born January 1, 1905.

In politics Mr. Janko is a democrat, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Evangelical church. Both he and his wife are well known in the community in which they reside and the hospitality of their pleasant home is freely extended to their many friends.

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### FRANK KONIGSMARK, JR.

Frank Konigsmark, Jr., who in the conduct of his agricultural pursuits is manifesting the value of scientific as well as practical knowledge of farming, is one of Linn county's native sons, his birth occurring in College township on the 9th of March, 1884. Of noble origin, he comes of a family whose name has long been an honored one in German Bohemia and is descended from ancestry distinguished for noble deeds in both peace and war.

The family was founded in America by Anthony Konigsmark, the grandfather of our subject, who was born in Bohemia on the 28th of March, 1812. In his native country he was reared and educated and there was united in marriage to Lydia Cech. In 1860 he crossed the Atlantic to the United States, making his way direct to Iowa, where he acquired six hundred and forty acres of land, casting in his lot with the early settlers of this district. He endured all of the hardships and privations incident to the opening up of a new farm, but with undaunted energy and untiring industry persevered from year to year, and the results of his labors became manifest in a well developed and valuable farm property. He passed away on the 12th of March, 1898, having survived his wife for three years, her death occurring in 1895.

Their son, Frank Konigsmark, Sr., the father of our subject, was born in 1863 in College township, Linn county, and was here reared and educated. He, too, followed agricultural pursuits as a life work, and his efforts were attended with such gratifying success that he is now able, as a result of industry, energy and perseverance, to live in retirement from active labor, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of his former toil. His wife, who in her maidenhood was Anna Castek, was born on the 24th of February, 1863, a daughter of a well known farmer of Johnson county, who is now deceased, as is also his wife. Mr. and Mrs. Konigsmark now reside in Cedar Rapids. In their family are the following children, of whom our subject is the eldest, the others being: Oldrich C., who is now a clerk in Cedar Rapids; Vlasta, a graduate of the Cedar Rapids high school; Rudolph; and Stanley and Lester, twins.

The educational training of Frank Konigsmark, Jr., was thorough and comprehensive. After graduating from the public schools he pursued a business course in a commercial college and then became a student in the Iowa State University, where he completed a course in agriculture. He thus fully equipped himself to meet the responsible duties that would devolve upon him in providing for his own support, for he had already decided upon the occupation to which he had been reared as a life work. Accordingly, although many opportunities were open to him and he received several offers to enter the business world, he rented the old home farm upon the retirement of his father and there at once began





putting the scientific knowledge of farming which he had acquired to the practical test. He is carrying on his agricultural pursuits along strictly up-to-date and modern methods and devotes one hundred and fifty-five acres, of the three hundred and twenty acres constituting the farm, to the raising of cereals, having one hundred acres in corn, thirty acres in oats and twenty-five in wheat. The balance of the farm is meadow and pasture land, for he also engages quite extensively in stock-raising, fattening a large number of hogs and cattle for the market annually. He makes a specialty of shorthorn cows, having at present fifty head of high grade stock with a fine bull at the head of the herd.

It was on the 5th of September, 1906, that Mr. Konigsmark laid the foundation for a happy home of his own by his marriage to Miss Tillie Dobrovsky, a daughter of Lewis and Anna (Zalesky) Dobrovsky, her father being a retired farmer of College township. Unto this union have been born two children: Lumir, born April 2, 1907; and Alma, whose birth occurred October 12, 1909.

In politics Mr. Konigsmark is a stalwart democrat and was elected to the office of township clerk at the primary election held in June, 1910. He belongs to a family which has long been identified with the growth and upbuilding of Linn county and Iowa, who have ever taken their part in the work of improvement and development and who have ranked at all times among the valued and representative citizens of the county. A station on the Cedar Rapids & Iowa City Inter-urban Electric Railway is named after his father, and the old original house, erected by his grandfather, is still standing on the homestead farm, a well known landmark throughout the locality. The personal history and business record of Frank Konigsmark, Jr., have ever been in harmony with an honored ancestry, and he stands high in the opinion of his fellow citizens, a position to which he has attained, however, through his own good merits. Although numbered among the younger farmers of this section, he has, nevertheless, won a degree of prosperity which augurs well for a successful future. Progress has been the keynote to his advancement and the excellent results which have attended his labors are but the proof of what may be accomplished when practical experience is guided and directed by intelligent and thorough knowledge of the science of agriculture.

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### WILLIAM HARMON NORTON, A. B., A. M.

Professor William Harmon Norton, educator and author, who is not only considered an authority upon the various phases of his specialty but whose authorship covers numerous works along educational and scientific lines, has also had important connection with the state and national geological surveys, his efforts in that direction having proved of the utmost value not only to the state of Iowa but to the country at large.

One of Ohio's native sons, his birth occurred at Willoughby on the 3d of April, 1856, his parents being Roderic and Caroline N. (Pardee) Norton, who were likewise born in Ohio. The former, who was also closely identified with educational lines in connection with various schools and colleges in both Ohio and Iowa, was reared in the northern part of the former state and acquired his early education in its public schools. Later he attended Allegheny College at Meadville, Pennsylvania, entering that institution with but twenty-five cents in his pocket. He worked his entire way through college, and after his graduation therefrom was given charge in succession of two seminaries in Ohio, and several charges in the Erie Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church as pastor. Throughout almost the entire period of his residence in Iowa he served as trustee of Cornell College at Mount Vernon, where his name will ever be commemorated by the departmental library on geology, a collection of about fifteen hundred



volumes. In 1875 Roderic Norton was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who left beside her husband two children: Mrs. Mina Norton Galloway, who also passed away in that year; and William Harmon Norton, whose name introduces this review.

The last named was a lad of five years when he came with his parents to Iowa and in the schools of this state received excellent educational advantages. Reared in an atmosphere of culture and refinement, into his mind were early instilled lessons which in after years bore rich fruit in honorable and upright manhood. He accompanied his parents on their various removals throughout the state and, after studying two years at Cedar Valley Seminary, Osage, Iowa, was for a similar period a student in the Upper Iowa University at Fayette. Later one year was spent at Cornell College, Mount Vernon, Iowa, from which he was graduated with the class of 1875. His scholarly attainments during his college career were such that upon his graduation he was offered and accepted a position on the faculty of his alma mater, becoming instructor of Latin and Greek, in which capacity he served from 1875 until 1877. In the latter year he was promoted to adjunct professor of Latin and Greek, remaining as such until 1881, when he was chosen professor of Greek and geology, thus continuing until 1890. He had ever been intensely interested in the subject of geology, which had been his favorite study throughout his college course, while his extended reading and research along that line had given him an unusually broad and comprehensive knowledge of this department of science. In 1890 he was appointed professor of geology and has since continued in that chair.

Not to the theoretical side of the science only has Professor Norton confined his attention, however, but has extended his efforts into the practical field, and the results of his labors in that direction have proved of great and lasting benefit. Soon after his graduation he made the first detailed geological survey of the county ever made. Since the organization of the Iowa Geological Survey in 1893 he has been an active member of the staff, having charge of the department of artesian wells. He has also contributed detailed reports on several counties of the state and other special papers. In 1903 he undertook to resurvey the ground water resources of the state of Iowa for the United States Geological Survey, and in this work was assisted by eight members of the state survey. This important work, in which he had some eight assistants, was completed in 1910. He has made artesian wells and glacial geology his specialties and is recognized as one of the best informed men on these subjects in the country. In this connection he has built up one of the best equipped geological laboratories in the United States and has one of the most extensive collections of fossils in the west, while he has built up for the college one of the half dozen largest geological collections of lantern slides and photographs in the country.

There is still another medium through which Professor Norton has become well known to the scientific world, and in this line his efforts have been equally valuable. He is the author of numerous scientific and educational papers which have been widely read and accepted. In 1905 he published a text-book on Elementary Geology for high schools and colleges, which is in use at the University of Chicago, the Northwestern University, at Evanston, Illinois, the University of Iowa and other well known educational institutions; is the author of *Artesian Wells of Iowa*, Vol. VI, Iowa Geological Survey; and *Ground Water Resources of Iowa*, United States Geological Survey, now in press.

On the 27th of August, 1883, Professor Norton was united in marriage to Miss Mary Florence Burr, a resident of Mount Vernon, whose birth occurred, however, in the state of New York. Her father was Isaac P. Burr, who for many years was engaged in agricultural pursuits but spent his last years in well earned rest in Mount Vernon. Mrs. Norton is a graduate of Cornell College and a lady of superior mental ability, being now alumni professor of mathematics in that





institution. The harmony of thought and taste of Professor Norton and his wife makes their home the center of a cultured class of people, while the hospitality of the best homes of the city is freely extended them.

Although the demand made upon the attention of Professor Norton in connection with his educational and scientific work is very heavy, he nevertheless finds time to take an active and helpful interest in public affairs, giving stalwart support to the republican party. He is progressive in his citizenship and although caring nothing for the honors and emoluments of office, gives his influence on the side of all those matters which tend toward the development and upbuilding of the community along material, intellectual and moral lines. His religious faith is indicated by the fact that he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church, while his membership relations also cover several scientific organizations. In 1900 he served as president of the Iowa Academy of Science and in 1902 as the president of the science section of the National Educational Association. He belongs to the National Geographic Society and is a fellow in the Geological Society of America, with which he has been identified since its organization. The last named society selects its members from among the most eminent scientists of the country and has a membership of about three hundred. Actuated by high ideals in all of his professional service, Professor Norton stands today among those whose labors have been effective in promoting the interests of his state and country along scientific and educational lines, while in his personal relations he has ever stood as a splendid type of the high-minded American gentleman with whom contact means expansion and elevation.

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#### JAMES M. HAYES

James M. Hayes, one of the prominent and influential citizens of Fayette township, has throughout his entire business career devoted his time and attention to agricultural pursuits. He was born on the farm where he now resides January 29, 1867, a son of James D. and Lovina (McVey) Hayes. The birth of the father occurred in Buffalo, New York, November 7, 1836, his parents being William and Johanna (Kinney) Hayes, natives of Ireland, who with their respective parents came to this county during childhood. The family removed to Wisconsin when the father was nine years of age and improved a good farm near Sheboygan. Later the grandfather went to Texas, where he passed away at the age of sixty-three years. His wife died in Wisconsin. In their family were four children: James D.; Mary and Ellen, who died in Wisconsin unmarried, and William, who died in Texas.

James D. Hayes remained under the parental roof until sixteen years of age and then began life for himself as a farm hand. Subsequently he learned the cabinet-maker's trade and afterward took up farming, to which occupation he devoted considerable attention throughout his life. It was in the spring of 1856 that he came to Linn county, Iowa, and located near Palo in Fayette township, where he continued to work at his trade and also purchased and improved a farm on section 20. He steadily prospered during his residence here and became the owner of some valuable property. In 1859 he married Miss Lovina McVey, who was born in Ohio in 1838 and unto them were born six children: Hattie, now the wife of Emery McArthur, a farmer of Fayette township; Nettie, the wife of Stephen Mobry, a farmer of the same township; Anna, the wife of Lyman Carver, also a farmer of Fayette township; Elizabeth, the wife of B. F. Childs, a laundryman of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; James M., of this review; and Sylvanus. For four years the father conducted a general store at Palo but his last years were spent in retirement in Cedar Rapids, where he owned several store buildings and con-





siderable residence property. After a useful and well spent life he passed away on the 28th of May, 1906, having survived his wife by about two years as her death occurred September 28, 1904.

Upon the home farm James M. Hayes grew to manhood and he pursued his studies in the public schools. During his boyhood and youth he gave his father the benefit of his services in conducting the farm and at the age of twenty-two years took charge of the home place, which he has since successfully operated. On the death of the father the homestead of two hundred and forty-one acres came into his possession and he now has one of the best improved and most highly cultivated farms in his locality. He has a new modern residence heated with hot air below and hot water on the second floor. He uses the latest improved machinery in carrying on his work and is thoroughly up to-date in all his methods.

On the 27th of February, 1889, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Hayes to Miss Minnie C. Rehder, a daughter of John Rehder, a native of Germany and an early settler of Clinton county, Iowa. Of the eight children born of this union seven are still living, namely: Rutherford Burns; Mary; Fay S.; Esther; Herbert H.; Leora and John.

Fraternally Mr. Hayes is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and politically is identified with the republican party. In the fall of 1908 he was elected a member of the board of township trustees, in which capacity he is now serving. He is also serving his ninth year as a member of the school board and for two years of that time was president of the same. He is today one of the most substantial and influential men of Fayette township, taking a very active and prominent part in public affairs and doing all in his power to promote the interests of his native county.

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#### MICHAEL FORD

While many hold that success is largely a matter of environment or of fortunate circumstance, careful investigation into the history of the great majority of successful men will indicate that their progress has been largely due to their recognition of the fact that the present and not the future holds their opportunity and that faithful and conscientious performance of each duty will win for them advancement and better chances. This is manifest in the life of Michael Ford, who is today one of the leading contractors of Cedar Rapids, employing a large force of workmen in the execution of the business interests entrusted to his care. A native of this state, Mr. Ford was born in Iowa City, July 6, 1868, and is a son of Larry and Mary (Barry) Ford, both of whom were natives of Ireland, where they were reared and married. Soon thereafter they came to the United States, settling in Holyoke, Massachusetts, where Mr. Ford became associated with railroad interests. He was a resident of Holyoke for some years but afterward became one of the early pioneers of this state, where he continued in railroading throughout his active life. He was for many years with the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Company in the capacity of engineer. Both he and his wife are yet living and have passed the eightieth milestone on life's journey. They are members of the Catholic church.

Michael Ford was reared at home, acquired his education in the public schools of Iowa City, in St. Patrick's parochial school and in the Iowa City Business College, after which he secured a position as clerk in a grocery store in which capacity he remained for several years. He was then importuned by a friend to join him in the barber business and Mr. Ford learned the trade under his friend and later engaged in business for himself, continuing in that field of labor for a number of



years. In 1884 he came to Cedar Rapids and opened a shop here, which he owned and conducted until about 1902. He has not carried on business in this line, however, for fifteen years. About 1895 he turned his attention to contracting in partnership with R. C. Delahunt, under the firm style of Ford & Delahunt, doing sewer, paving and heavy construction work. The business relation between them was continued for three or four years, after which the firm of Snouffer & Ford was formed, with J. J. Snouffer as the partner. This firm existed for three or four years and since its dissolution Mr. Ford has carried on business independently. He has done practically all the paving work in Cedar Rapids and carries on an extensive business in that field of contracting. He is now a member of the Bryan, Ford & McLaughlin Paving Company, which owns and operates five asphalt plants, while in ten surrounding states they have operated extensively in paving work in various cities. Mr. Ford also controls a paving brick plant at Buffalo, Kansas, is one of the stockholders in the Purington paving brick plant at Galesburg, Illinois, and a stockholder in the Barr paving brick plant at Streator, Illinois.

In May, 1890, Mr. Ford was married to Miss Elizabeth Menz, a native of Cedar Rapids, and a daughter of Michael Menz, one of the early settlers of this city. Her father, a native of Germany, served in the German army and after coming to the United States enlisted in the Civil war and was said to be the best drilled man in his regiment, becoming known among his comrades as the "fighting Dutchman." Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ford has been born a son, Leo M., who is now attending the State Agricultural College at Ames.

Mr. Ford belongs to the Cedar Rapids Commercial Club and is interested in its various projects for the upbuilding and development of Cedar Rapids in business lines and for the promotion of those projects which tend to beautify and adorn the city. From a humble place in the business world he has made commendable advancement until with wide and important interests he stands today in a leading position among the contractors of this city.

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### JOHN LEFEBURE

John Lefebure, a prominent and progressive farmer and stockman residing on section 32, Fairfax township, is the owner of four hundred acres of valuable land in that township. He is numbered among the worthy native sons of this county, his birth having occurred in Fairfax, Iowa, on the 7th of August, 1872. His education was begun in the district schools, where he pursued his studies until twelve years of age and then entered the Fairfax high school, from which he was graduated at the age of eighteen. He next spent a year in the Cedar Rapids Business College and after putting aside his text-books turned his attention to the operation of the home farm, assisting his father until the latter's death in 1901. At that time he received two hundred and twenty acres from the estate and in addition to this bought a tract of one hundred from his brother and eighty acres from the E. J. Swoyer estate, one hundred acres of which is in section 23, while the remaining eighty lies in section 22. In connection with the tilling of the soil he also devotes considerable attention to stock-raising and is at present the owner of eighty head of cattle, fourteen horses and one hundred hogs. This year he has planted one hundred and fifty acres to corn and ninety acres to oats, while the balance of his land is in hay and pasture. He still resides on the old homestead place where he was reared and as the years have gone by has made many substantial improvements on the property, having erected new corn cribs, a tenant house, etc. The neat and thrifty appearance of the farm indicates the constant super-





vision of a practical and progressive owner, and the attractiveness of the place is greatly enhanced by the many fine pine trees around the home.

On the 17th of February, 1897, in Mechanicsville, Iowa, Mr. Lefebure was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Foley, by whom he has four children, as follows: Leon, who is twelve years of age and attends the Marion Catholic Seminary at Marion, Iowa; Winifred, who is nine years old and attends the district schools; and Lloyd and John, who are six and two years of age respectively.

Mr. Lefebure is a Catholic in religious faith and belongs to the Holy Name Society. His fraternal relations are with the Modern Woodmen of America. He has a host of warm friends in the county where his entire life has been spent and is widely recognized as one of its prosperous and representative citizens.

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### WILLIAM A. MOHRBACHER

William A. Mohrbacher, chief of the Cedar Rapids fire department and well qualified for the position, has during his incumbency brought the department up to a high standard of efficiency and organization, his service being of such a character as to win uniform commendation and approval. He was born in Caledonia, Wisconsin, on the 15th of May, 1871, and is a son of Peter and Katherine (Severa) Mohrbacher. The father was a native of Pennsylvania and of Pennsylvania Dutch descent, while the mother's birth occurred in Bohemia. In his boyhood days Peter Mohrbacher removed with his parents to Wisconsin and settled on a farm near Caledonia, about twenty miles from the city of Milwaukee. It was in that locality that Katherine Severa had taken up her abode on coming to America and there the parents of our subject were married. While living in that district Mr. Mohrbacher responded to the country's call for troops to serve for ninety days in the Civil war. He adopted farming as his life work and followed that pursuit until his removal to Cedar Rapids in 1886, at which time he went to work in a packing house and for the past four or five years he has been on the city pay roll.

William A. Mohrbacher was reared at home and the public schools afforded him his education. He was thirteen years of age when in 1884 W. F. Severa, his mother's brother and a manufacturing chemist of Cedar Rapids, sent for him and his sister Frances to come to this city. After their arrival here they continued their education in the Cedar Rapids public schools and when sixteen years of age William A. Mohrbacher began working in his uncle's chemical laboratory, where he was employed for two years. He then went west to Wilber, Nebraska, where he occupied a position in a general store for eighteen months. On the expiration of that period he returned to Cedar Rapids but soon went to Racine, Wisconsin, where he was employed in a sales and feed barn for one year. Again coming to Cedar Rapids, he secured a situation in the Sinclair packing house, where he remained for six or eight months, after which he was appointed a member of the city fire department, his appointment being made on the 1st of June, 1894. On the 1st of December, 1897, he was promoted to the rank of captain in charge of hose company No. 2, and on the 17th of March, 1902, he was promoted to assistant chief and captain of the central fire station. Since the 13th of December, 1909, he has been chief of the fire department, his appointment coming to him from the city council.

Prior to his connection with the paid fire department of Cedar Rapids he had served for eight years as a member of the volunteer fire department under Chief L. M. Ayers, so that his service in connection with the fighting of fires in Cedar Rapids covers a period of a quarter of a century. He has closely studied the best methods of handling conflagrations and is placing the present department on a



plane with the most efficient fire fighting systems of the country. Modern apparatus is in use and each company is well drilled, while the system is so carefully organized that the companies reach the place of conflagration with the least possible waste of time and effort.

Mr. Mohrbacher was married in 1891 to Miss Susan M. Louvar, of this city, and they have many friends here. Mr. Mohrbacher is non-partisan in his political views. Fraternally he is connected with John Hus Lodge, No. 151, I. O. O. F.; Sovereign Camp of the Woodmen of the World; Court Cedar Camp of the Foresters of America; and the Fraternal Aid. His has been a somewhat varied experience, bringing him eventually into a position of prominence where his service is of value to his fellow citizens.

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### GEORGE M. STARK

Since 1888 George M. Stark has made his home on his present farm in Clinton township, Linn county, and purchasing land from time to time he now owns here three hundred and fifty acres, all of which is tillable and productive. Born in that township, on the 6th of February, 1861, he is a son of Andrew and Mary Stark. The father was born in Germany in 1835 and was a young man of eighteen years when he emigrated to America, locating in Linn county, where he followed farming throughout life, and owning land in this section of the state.

George M. Stark pursued his studies in the district schools, putting aside his text-books at the age of twenty years. He then worked on his father's farm for one year but on attaining his majority he started out upon an independent business venture and rented land for one year, on the expiration of which period he went to Dakota. Purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land in that state, he was identified with its operation until the fall of 1883. In that year he leased his property and, returning to his old home in Linn county, rented eighty acres of land, which he farmed for five years. He then purchased one hundred and twenty acres on section 28, Clinton township, and, having added to his original holdings from time to time, he now has three hundred and fifty acres, all in one body. On the place stands a good country residence, and Mr. Stark has erected a number of outbuildings, enlarged his barn and also built a corn crib, machine shed and other structures necessary for the care of his grain and stock. He raises cattle, horses and hogs, having about one hundred hogs, twenty-two head of horses, and forty-one head of cattle, nine of which are thoroughbred Herefords. In all of his work he is enterprising and is meeting with a degree of success of which he may well be proud.

In April, 1882, in Cedar Rapids, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Stark and Miss Emilia Schrimper, a daughter of Frederick and Rosana Schrimper, who are natives of Germany. Emigrating to America in 1856, the father here followed farming throughout his active business career, passing away in Linn county in 1896. The mother, however, still survives.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Stark have been born ten children, nine of whom are still living: Lyle William; Mrs. Rosie Davis, of Montana; John H., who at the age of twenty-five is assisting in the work of the home farm; George A., who is also at home and is conducting a dairy business; Bernard C., also under the parental roof; Florence I., the wife of George Young, of Clinton township; Frances F., who is still with her parents; Willard S., who at the age of fourteen is attending the district schools; Earl R., a little lad of seven years; and Harold, five years of age.

In political faith Mr. Stark is a democrat, while in religious faith he is a Catholic. His fraternal relations connect him with the Modern Woodmen and the Fraternal Order of Eagles. Starting out in life without capital but with a deter-





mination to make for himself a place in the business world, he has through his determination and persistency advanced as the years have gone by until today, in possession of valuable farming property, he stands among the successful and substantial citizens of Linn county.

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### SHELTON HICKMAN

Since starting out in life on his own account Shelton Hickman has made for himself a substantial place in the world and through investment in farm lands has accumulated a competence that now enables him to live retired in a comfortable home in Alburnett. He was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, September 12, 1836, a son of Joseph and Mary (Bunting) Hickman, both of whom were natives of Virginia, whence they removed to Jones county, Iowa, in 1852. The father first established a home for himself and family on a farm of three hundred and fifty acres, which he cultivated until 1872. In that year he disposed of his land and invested in another tract of one hundred and twenty acres, likewise situated in Jones county. He placed splendid improvements on each tract and operated the latter until his death in 1885. The mother survived him for only a short time, her death occurring June 19, 1887. In their family were nine children, as follows: W. H.; Shelton, of this review; Kimble, who died May 23, 1882; Sarah Ann, who departed this life October 24, 1879; Demarcus L.; Hulda J., who died in May, 1908; George W.; John; and Lucy E., who died July 15, 1860.

Shelton Hickman was reared under the parental roof. After reaching mature years he felt justified in starting out upon an independent business venture. He accordingly began farming on thirty-five acres of the old homestead, which, however, was timber land and had first to be cleared before he could plant his crops. In 1861 he purchased ninety acres, a portion of which was prairie, while the remainder had to be cleared and grubbed. In 1870 he added one hundred and ten acres to his original holdings. In 1880 he bought one hundred and thirty-five acres, while in 1886 he increased his holdings by an additional purchase of one hundred and twenty acres, his property then aggregating four hundred and twenty acres. All this he improved, making it a valuable property. In 1888 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Marion county, Iowa, eighty acres of which he deeded to his son John, while in 1896 he bought one hundred and fifty-nine acres in Marion township, Linn county, deeding eighty acres of this to his son Marcus. He also owned one hundred and eighty-eight acres in Monroe township at one time but he has since sold this. In 1893 he took up his abode in Linn county and, having disposed of all his former farm property, he purchased eighty acres adjoining Alburnett, which he operated until 1905, when he retired and has since lived in his beautiful home in Alburnett. He still retains possession of the last tract and also owns some city property in Roff, Oklahoma. He has given his children a good start in life, giving to some land, while to others he gave its equivalent in money. The prosperity which has attended his efforts is entirely the result of his own untiring and well directed labor, for he started out in business life on his own account with but thirty-five acres of timber land, which he had to clear. Working diligently, persistently and energetically as the years went by, he advanced steadily and surely toward the goal of success and has acquired a competency that now supplies him with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

Mr. Hickman was married December 22, 1859, the lady of his choice being Miss Chloe Ross, a daughter of Jonathan B. and Elizabeth A. (Kinney) Ross, both natives of Herkimer county, New York, from which state they came to Iowa in 1855. They established their home on a farm on Bowens Prairie in Jones county,





the father being engaged in farming. He built the second cheese factory in Iowa, operating the same for a number of years, when he abandoned that business and for four years conducted a creamery in the same building. He then retired from business, having acquired a good competence. He departed this life August 13, 1886, while his wife had died many years before, her death occurring July 25, 1864. In their family were fourteen children, as follows: Abigail, who died December 23, 1905; Jeremiah K., who died in 1906; Chloe A.; John B.; Oliver A.; Martha E.; Isabel M.; James D., who died September 1, 1850; Oliver B., who died in February, 1908; Mary C., who departed this life in December, 1884; Julia I., who died July 13, 1860; Ellen A.; Alfred E.; and Fred J., whose death occurred in July, 1905.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hickman have been born six children, namely: Anna M., the wife of William J. Greer, of Marion, Iowa; John M., who died October 6, 1907, leaving a widow and three children; Clara B., the wife of T. P. Gowan, a resident of Montgomery, Iowa; Marcus F., who lives in Marion township, Linn county; Laura C., the wife of Elbert Gilmore, also a resident of Marion township; and Sarah E., the wife of Harry Newell, of Marion township. All the children have been well educated. Clara is a graduate of the Cedar Falls Normal and holds a state teacher's certificate, while the others are graduates of the high school of Monticello.

Mr. Hickman is a stalwart democrat in his political views and for three years held the office of supervisor of Jones county. He has likewise served on the school board for twelve years. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist church. A man of exemplary habits, of high principles and of upright conduct, wherever he is known he commands the good will and trust of those with whom he is associated.

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#### JOHN CUHEL

A well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres, located on section 24, Fairfax township, and ten acres in Johnson county, is the property of John Cuhel, who was born on the home farm in College township, April 10, 1864, the fourth son of Vincent and Frances (Mach) Cuhel, farming people first in Linn county and later of Johnson county, this state. The father was born in Moravia, Austria, June 10, 1810, while the mother's birth occurred in 1830. Emigrating to the United States, they established their home on a tract of land of forty acres in College township, this county, in 1861. As time passed and the father prospered in his undertakings he added to his original possessions, eventually becoming the owner of two hundred and thirty acres. After spending some years in Linn county he removed to Johnson county, where he continued to follow farming. He retired, however, in 1888 and died in Johnson county in 1896. The mother survived for a few years and died in that county in 1905. The paternal grandparents of our subject, Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Cuhel, were likewise farming people in their native land. Mr. Cuhel has a brother, Vincent Cuhel, who also farms in Fairfax township, while a sister, Frances, is the wife of John Janko, a farmer of College township.

John Cuhel pursued his studies in the public schools to the age of eighteen years but remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority. He then began farming for himself on a tract of one hundred and twenty acres, which he purchased. He has since added to his holdings and now owns one hundred and seventy acres in Fairfax township, located on section 24. He carries on general farming, his principal crop being corn, for he raises cattle, hogs and horses, and feeds much of the grain he raises. He is justly numbered among the





MR. AND MRS. JOHN CUHEL.





successful men of his section of Linn county and his success is the outcome of his own persistent efforts and capable management.

On the 18th of May, 1890, occurred the marriage of Mr. Cuhel and Miss Barbara Cerveny, a daughter of John and Mary (Meline) Cerveny, formerly farming people of Fairfax township but now living retired in Cedar Rapids. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Cuhel was blessed with four children: Libbie, who was born September 28, 1893; Sylvia, born August 10, 1895; Tillie, whose birth occurred September 10, 1900; and Lumir, whose birth occurred August 3, 1902. The wife and mother was called to her final rest on the 14th of February, 1908, and since that time the two oldest daughters have acted as their father's housekeepers.

In his political views Mr. Cuhel is a republican, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Evangelical Moravian church in Johnson county. He is most enterprising and progressive in carrying on his business affairs, which, capably managed, have brought him very desirable success, and he is today numbered among the highly esteemed citizens of Fairfax township and Linn county.

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### PETER A. HROMATKO

Peter A. Hromatko, one of the leading grocery merchants of Cedar Rapids, was born in Tama county, Iowa, on the 1st of September, 1868, his parents being Charles and Anna (Cesik) Hromatko, both of whom were natives of Bohemia. They were reared and married in that country but in 1856 crossed the Atlantic to the United States, first locating in Davenport, Iowa, where they remained for a year. On the expiration of that period they took up their abode on a farm in Tama county, where Charles Hromatko followed general agricultural pursuits for about nineteen years. In 1876, however, he came to Cedar Rapids and, being a butcher by trade, here conducted a meat market for some two years. He was then identified with contracting interests for several years and subsequently entered a bookbindery, spending the remainder of his life at the bookbinder's trade. While residing in Tama county he was instrumental in arranging for the first meeting of the Bohemian Protestants of this country and for years afterward he was an active factor in the advancement of religious work in his section. He was a charter member and one of the organizers of the Fourth Bohemian Presbyterian church in Cedar Rapids and both he and his wife did all in their power to promote its growth and extend its influence. His demise occurred in 1900, when he had attained the age of seventy-two years, while his wife was called to her final rest in 1897 at the age of sixty-six years.

Peter A. Hromatko is the seventh in order of birth in a family of twelve children, ten sons and two daughters. He was reared under the parental roof and as a pupil in the public schools became familiar with the elementary branches of English learning. He then secured employment in a wholesale boot and shoe store but, being desirous of augmenting his knowledge, he devoted his evenings to study, attending night school at the Cedar Rapids Business College. The principal took an unusual interest in the lad and proposed that he complete the prescribed course and then serve in the capacity of teacher. Acting upon this suggestion, Mr. Hromatko was an instructor in the college for about two and a half years, while subsequently he spent two years as a student in the Ohio Normal University at Ada, Ohio, taking up musical as well as literary studies. In 1893 he became bookkeeper for the firm of Cook & Smith, manufacturers of Cedar Rapids, but the plant was destroyed by fire the same year. His brother, Charles K., then admitted him to a partnership in the grocery business and during the following eleven years he was known as a member of the firm of Hromatko Brothers. In 1904 he purchased his brother's interest in the business and has since remained



alone, being widely recognized as one of the leading retail grocers of Cedar Rapids.

On the 10th of June, 1903, Mr. Hromatko was united in marriage to Miss Rachel Metcalf, of Cedar Rapids. He gives his political allegiance to the republican party and, while never an aspirant for public preferment, he has frequently served as city and county delegate and has taken an active interest in all measures and movements that are matters of civic virtue and civic pride. He likewise belongs to several fraternal orders, being a member of Crescent Lodge, No. 25, A. F. & A. M.; Cedar Rapids Lodge, No. 141, I. O. O. F.; and the Woodmen of the World. For the past seventeen years he has acted as organist and choir leader in the Sinclair Memorial Presbyterian church, of which his wife is also a valued member. As a choir leader he has been remarkably successful. His choir, always composed of volunteers who, like himself, serve without pay, is recognized as one of the best in the city and has numbered among its members some of Cedar Rapids' leading voices who owe their success to his encouragement and enthusiasm. Mr. Hromatko is also the composer of several songs which have been favorably received. He has made for himself a creditable position in commercial circles and his name is now an honored one throughout the community by reason of the progressive spirit and unfaltering commercial integrity which he has displayed in all his business transactions.

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#### XENOPHON N. KEMP

Xenophon N. Kemp, who is now living retired at No. 864 Central avenue in Marion, was successfully identified with general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career. His birth occurred in Marion township, Linn county, Iowa, on the 5th of May, 1843, his parents being Elisha and Louisa (Ford) Kemp, who were natives of Massachusetts and Vermont respectively. The father first came to Iowa in 1838 but two years later returned east and was married, after which he brought his bride to Marion township, this county. Here he took up a claim and for eight years lived in a log cabin, at the end of which time he erected a frame structure and made his home therein until Iowa was admitted to the Union. He continued to reside on his original farm throughout the remainder of his life, gradually extending its boundaries by additional purchase until it embraced five hundred and sixty acres of rich and productive land. In addition to cultivating the cereals best adapted to soil and climate he also devoted considerable attention to the raising of stock and both branches of his business proved profitable. He was always among the first to institute new methods and utilize modern improvements in the conduct of his agricultural interests and became widely recognized as one of the prominent and esteemed citizens of the community. Both he and his wife were consistent and devoted members of the Christian church. Elisha Kemp was called to his final rest in July, 1887, and thus the county lost one of the honored pioneer settlers whose labors had contributed so much toward the early development and upbuilding of this part of the state. His remains were interred in the Oak Shade cemetery at Marion, where his wife was also buried in March, 1890.

Their children were four in number, as follows: Xenophon, of this review; Almira Z., who wedded George Stinson and passed away in 1887; Ida L., who taught school after completing her education at Oskaloosa, Iowa, and is now the wife of Willis G. Lilly, of Linn county; and Emil I., who is married and lives on the old homestead in Marion township, this county.

Xenophon N. Kemp remained with his parents until he had attained the age of twenty-five years and then gave his attention to the operation of the homestead





place for nine years. On the expiration of that period he bought a tract of one hundred and twenty acres and was actively and continuously engaged in its cultivation until 1907, though in the meantime he had added to his landed holdings by additional purchase until his farm comprised two hundred and eighty-one acres. Three years ago he disposed of the property and purchased a fine residence in Marion, where he has since lived in honorable retirement.

On the 24th of November, 1868, Mr. Kemp was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary J. Russell, a daughter of Charles L. and M. A. (Ford) Russell, who were natives of Connecticut and Vermont respectively. The father passed away in June, 1903, when ninety-two years of age, while the mother was called to her final rest in October, 1902, at the age of eighty-six years. Unto them were born seven children, namely: Harriet, who died in infancy; Ellen, the wife of E. Doolittle, of Linn county; Albert, who died in 1863 while serving as a soldier in defense of the Union; C. L., a resident of Connecticut; Mrs. Kemp; Emily, the wife of J. B. Griffin, of Marion, Iowa; and Emerett, who wedded S. B. Mills and died in 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Kemp are the parents of three children. Vern A., who is married, is a retired agriculturist living at Maxbass, North Dakota. Lambert E. is likewise married and resides on a farm of seventeen hundred and sixty acres at Maxbass, North Dakota. Elda M., a graduate of the Marion schools, continued her studies at Cedar Falls and also pursued a course in the State University of Iowa. For the past six years she has been engaged in teaching school at Staples, Minnesota. In 1905 she also proved up a claim in North Dakota.

Politically Mr. Kemp is a republican, voting with the party yet never seeking office. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Christian church. Throughout his entire life, or for more than two-thirds of a century, he has resided within the borders of Linn county and is therefore largely familiar with its annals from pioneer times down to the present. His fellow citizens know him as a man of honor and genuine personal worth, meriting their respect, good will and confidence.

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### JOHN A. DUNN

John A. Dunn, who owns and operates a well improved farm of two hundred acres in Jackson township, also conducts a dairy business. He is a native of Iowa, born in Clinton county, May 22, 1856, a son of Alexander and Susan Dunn. The former was born in Ireland, while the latter claimed England as the place of her nativity. They came to America with their respective parents during childhood and the father located in Iowa when a young man. He entered government land in Clinton county and there spent his remaining days. The mother still survives and now makes her home in Linn county. Of their ten children six are living.

John A. Dunn was reared on the home farm in Clinton county, early being trained in the tasks of the fields as he assisted his father in the work of plowing, planting and harvesting the crops. He pursued his education in the district schools and after putting aside his text-books began life on a farm in Otter Creek township, Linn county, which was given him by his father. He made his home on that place for fifteen years, after which he removed to St. Clair county, Missouri, where he continued farming operations for ten years. On the expiration of that period he disposed of his land in Missouri and returning to Linn county, purchased his present farm of two hundred acres, situated in Jackson township. He follows modern methods of agriculture, and each year his labors are rewarded by the golden harvests which he gathers. He also conducts a dairy, his products finding a ready sale on the market.

In 1879 Mr. Dunn was married to Miss Jennie Robison, a daughter of Thomas and Isabel Robison, both of whom are deceased. Mrs. Dunn is a native of Canada





and is one of a family of four children. By her marriage she has become the mother of eight children, as follows: Louis A., at home; Susan V., the wife of George F. Kennedy; Alice, the wife of Marion Nightingale, of Linn county; May, the wife of John Page, of Clinton, this state; Claud R.; Ira M.; one who died in infancy; and Oral D.

A democrat in principle and practice, Mr. Dunn is public-spirited in a marked degree, always interested in the welfare of the community, he has served on the school board, being a firm friend of educational interests. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp at Central City, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, to which his wife also belongs. Inheriting the sterling characteristics of his foreign ancestry and making wise use of his opportunities, he has advanced in the business world until he is now classed among Linn county's most successful and well-to-do residents.

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### CLINTON B. CHESMORE

Throughout his active business life Clinton B. Chesmore has been prominently identified with the agricultural interests of Linn county and is today one of the most prosperous farmers of Jackson township. Success has ever attended his well directed efforts and as a business man he is regarded as thoroughly reliable and trustworthy. He was born in Franklin county, New York, on the 18th of July, 1849, and is a son of William and Mercy (Colburn) Chesmore, natives of Vermont. His paternal grandfather was a soldier of the war of 1812. On his mother's side, his great-uncle, Zerith Colburn, published the first arithmetic ever published in the United States, this being before the year 1800. His parents were reared and married in the Green Mountain state and it was about 1837 that they removed to New York, where they made their home until 1855, which year witnessed their arrival in Wisconsin. In 1864 they came to Iowa and located in Linn county, the father purchasing a farm in Grant township, where both he and his wife died. Their family consisted of twelve children and six of the number are still living.

The common schools afforded C. B. Chesmore his educational advantages during his boyhood and youth and in the periods of vacation he assisted his father in the operation of the home place. At the age of twenty-one years he started out in life for himself and for six years ran a peddling wagon. At the end of that time he was able to purchase forty acres of land, where he now resides, and in its cultivation he steadily prospered. As time passed he extended the boundaries of his farm, buying more land from time to time until he now owns eleven hundred and thirty-nine acres, all in Jackson township with the exception of one hundred and seventy-five acres in Grant township. He has cleared six hundred and fifty acres of this property and has placed his land under a high state of cultivation. He has erected several sets of farm buildings and is today regarded as one of the most thorough and progressive agriculturists of Linn county. He has not only engaged in general farming but has always devoted considerable attention to the buying and shipping of stock of all kinds and this business has added materially to his income.

It was on the 20th of November, 1876, that Mr. Chesmore was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Jacobson, who was born in 1856 on the farm in Jackson township where he now resides and died on the 9th of August, 1907. Her father came here in 1844 and entered the land from the government. He died in 1875 and his wife passed away in October, 1865. Mr. and Mrs. Chesmore became the parents of eight children, namely: Edgar T., now deceased; Harvey C., a resident





C. B. CHESMORE







MRS. C. B. CHESMORE



of Delaware county. Iowa; Roy V., of Tennessee; Louise, the wife of Bert Woodruff, of Grant township; Carl, of Jackson township; Sarah, deceased; Clarence, of Wyoming; Carrie, deceased; and Myra, still at home. Mr. Chesmore was again married, July 7, 1910, his second union being with Mrs. Flora Erath, of Central City, and to their wedding all the countryside were invited, it being one of the biggest events of the kind in that part of the county as over three hundred were present.

The democratic party finds in Mr. Chesmore a staunch supporter of its principles, but he has never cared for office, preferring to give his entire time and attention to his business interests, which are now so extensive. Wide-awake, industrious and energetic, the prosperity that has come to him is certainly well merited and he deserves to be classed among the men of affluence and prominence in his adopted county.

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### HARRY ABRAMS

The business ability of Harry Abrams is indicated in his widely extended trade connections. Not only is he operating as one of the leading merchants of Cedar Rapids but is also a factor in commercial activity elsewhere, and the extent and importance of his interests are proof of his splendid ability and enterprise. He was born in Carlyle, Illinois, September 5, 1879. His father, Bernard Abrams, a native of Germany, emigrated to the United States in 1860 and settled first in St. Louis, Missouri, where for five years he was known as a prominent retail merchant. In 1865 he removed to Carlyle, Illinois, and became one of the leading merchants of that place, there continuing business until 1884, when he removed to Chicago and began the manufacture of dry-goods specialties. He also owned a large retail store at the same time, conducting both lines of business with good success until his death, which occurred in Chicago in 1907. In early manhood he had wedded Miss Alvina Lewkowish, a native of Berlin, Germany, and they became the parents of five children: Isaac, Leo, Monto and Rosa, who are living in Chicago; and Harry, of this review. The daughter is now the wife of H. Weller.

Spending his youthful days in his father's home, Harry Abrams pursued his education in the public schools and after putting aside his text-books applied himself closely to mercantile pursuits. He was connected with the wholesale hardware trade in Chicago for three years and then extended his efforts to include both the wholesale and retail business, being thus engaged until 1908, when he removed to Cedar Rapids and established the well known and popular clothing and general dry-goods and department stores known as the Boston stores. In January, 1910, he also opened similar stores at Clinton, Iowa, and a little later opened a store at 103-109 Third avenue West, which is the largest department store on the west side of Cedar Rapids. He is likewise extensively interested in the wholesale dry-goods firm of A. Weil & Company of Chicago. From that point he secures the best and latest which the market affords for his retail establishments. He carries large and well selected lines of goods and he possesses in large measure that commercial sense which enables the individual to conduct growing and profitable enterprises. His stores are attractive and tasteful in arrangement and reasonable prices and courteous treatment, which is demanded on the part of all employes, secure for the house a constantly growing patronage.

In 1903 Mr. Abrams was united in marriage to Miss Selma Petker, of Toronto, Canada, a daughter of Phillip and Rose Petker, now living retired at Los Angeles, California. Mr. and Mrs. Abrams have become parents of two children, Bernice and Sylvia, aged respectively five and three years.



Mr. Abrams is a prominent Mason, holding membership in Mount Hermon Lodge, F. & A. M.; and in Iowa Consistory, in which he has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite. He is also a member of the Commercial Club. Throughout his life he has been connected with mercantile interests and is today recognized as the head of some of the most important business establishments of Iowa. A man of keen discrimination and sound judgment, his executive ability and excellent management have brought to the concerns with which he is connected a large degree of success. The safe conservative policy which he inaugurated commends itself to the judgment of all and has secured to the company a patronage which makes the volume of trade transacted over its counters of great importance and magnitude. The prosperity of the house is largely due to its president and manager — the gentleman whose name initiates this review.

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### JAMES A. HOOVER

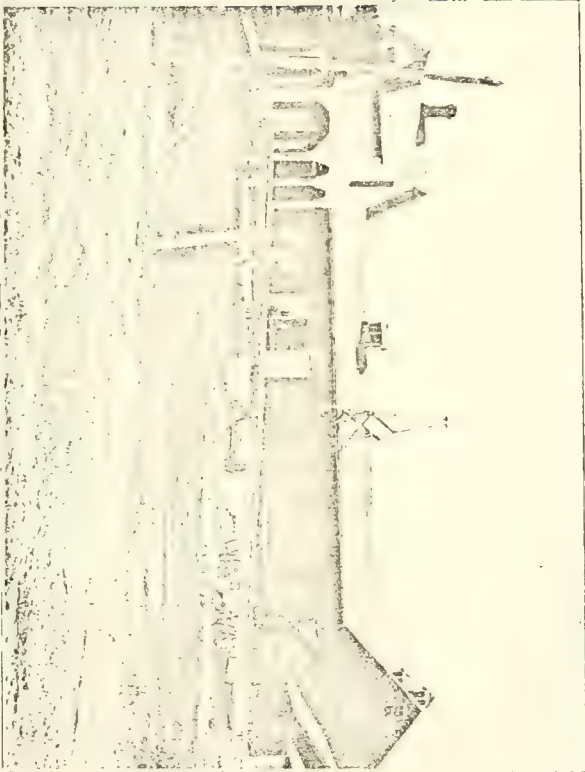
James A. Hoover, who was formerly identified with industrial interests as a carpenter, now devotes his attention to general agricultural pursuits, owning an excellent farm of eighty acres on section 21, Monroe township. His birth occurred in Pennsylvania on the 12th of November, 1862, his parents being Levi S. and Sarah (Albaugh) Hoover, who were likewise natives of the Keystone state. Leaving that part of the country, they journeyed westward to Linn county, Iowa, and here continued to reside until called to their final rest, the father passing away in 1886, aged sixty-eight years, and the mother in September, 1905, at the advanced age of eighty-nine years. He was a Union soldier during the Civil war, serving for three years as a member of the Eighteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, and participating in many engagements, including the battle of Gettysburg. In his family were five children, three of whom still survive.

James A. Hoover supplemented his preliminary education by a high school course and when seventeen years of age began providing for his own support by working as a farm hand, being thus employed until he had attained his majority. He then learned the carpenter's trade and successfully followed that occupation for a number of years or until he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits in 1902. In that year he bought a farm of eighty acres on section 21, Monroe township, on which he has since resided and in the operation of which he has been very successful. His fields are richly cultivated and in addition to the tilling of the soil he raises and feeds hogs, both branches of his business returning to him a gratifying annual income. He likewise acts as manager of the Robins Telephone Company, which has connections with the Bell Telephone Company.

On the 27th of October, 1885, Mr. Hoover was united in marriage to Miss Charlotte Cronk, who was born in Linn county on the 24th of August, 1866, her parents being James T. and Amy (Kramer) Cronk. Her father was a native of Prince Albert, Canada, born March 1, 1834, and died on the 8th of May, 1902. During the Civil war he enlisted in Company C, Fifteenth Iowa Infantry, having come to this state in 1856. His wife, who was born in Pennsylvania, June 1, 1838, belonged to one of the earliest of Linn county's pioneer families, having come here in 1839 with her parents, Andrew and Mary (Franks) Kramer, who were natives of Maryland and Pennsylvania respectively. The family located at Linn Grove. Mrs. Cronk is still living and continues to make her home in this county. She is the mother of seven children, including Mrs. Hoover, who enjoyed the advantages of a good high school education. To our subject and his wife have been born nine children, as follows: John C., Carlton C., Teddy, Pearl I., Leah M., James L., Francis, Bessie and Ralph.







RESIDENCE OF C. B. CHESMORE



In his political views Mr. Hoover is a staunch republican and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have called him to several positions of public trust. He has served as township trustee for the past six years, was assessor for two terms and also acted as a school director, ever discharging his official duties in a prompt and capable manner. His fraternal relations are with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and he has filled all of the chairs in lodge No. 18 at Marion. A man of upright principles and progressive spirit, he occupies an enviable place in the respect of his fellowmen by reason of his loyal citizenship and his genuine personal worth.

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### JOSEPH NAIBERT

Joseph Naibert, manager at Cedar Rapids for the Pure Food Baking Company, belongs to that class of men whom the world terms self-made inasmuch as he has had no financial assistance and in fact has depended entirely upon his own labors and resources since starting out in life for himself at an early age. His father, Frank Naibert, was a native of Bohemia, born in 1847. He was twenty-seven years of age when, in 1875, he emigrated to the United States. He had previously learned the shoe-maker's trade and had served his time as a journeyman, being compelled according to the laws of Bohemia to travel from city to city and work at his trade. He was therefore thus engaged in Prague, Vienna and other large cities of Austria. Believing that labor would win more immediate recognition in the new world, he made arrangements to come to the United States and settled first in Chicago. After a few weeks, however, he removed to Ely, Iowa, where he remained for twelve years working at his trade. Times were very hard and his hours were long. He labored from six o'clock in the morning until eight o'clock at night for but one dollar per day. After twelve years at Ely he emigrated to Nebraska where he secured a claim of a quarter section of fine land and began its cultivation. But owing to the grasshopper plague the family was placed in distressing conditions, not from lack of money, for Mr. Naibert had come to this country well provided with a goodly capital. The destruction of all crops, however, made it impossible to buy scarcely anything to eat in the small isolated villages of Nebraska, and he was therefore forced to give away the farm and the improvements he had made upon it after one year of earnest effort spent in its cultivation. He then returned to Ely and again took up the trade of making boots and shoes, in which he was very successful. For many years he continued actively in that line but is now living retired. He removed from Ely to Cedar Rapids where he is enjoying well earned rest. He was a devoted and faithful member of the Presbyterian church and, having a fine voice, acted as a singer at funerals at Ely for a number of years. He also gave his services gratuitously in teaching the Bohemian language and in singing lessons. After removing to Cedar Rapids he continued to give instruction in singing and in the Bohemian language and through his efforts the Bohemian Presbyterians of this city were enabled to purchase a church and a fine organ, the money being raised through the solicitation of Mr. Naibert. He still regularly attends the funerals of brother members of the church. He married Miss Mary Sipal, also a native of Bohemia, and unto them four children were born, Frank, Charles H., Emma and Joseph. The daughter has been employed by Dr. Kayley for seventeen years as bookkeeper and secretary.

Joseph Naibert, who was born in 1871, was educated in the public schools of Ely and in after years benefited by a full course of instruction in the Cedar Rapids Business College. He was first employed in a general merchandise store in Ely. For his first week's service he received one pound of Arbuckle coffee, for the second week a quarter's worth of sugar and later was paid fifty cents per



week. He removed from Ely to Cedar Rapids when quite young and entered the services of a Mr. Bednar, working for five months as a clerk in a grocery store. After leaving the employ of Mr. Bednar he was for seven months in the employ of V. E. Vane, and during the succeeding two and a half years was with the firm of Petrovitsky & Nemecek. He also spent two and a half years in the service of McCloud Brothers, continuing all this time in the grocery trade. After twelve years spent as an employe of B. T. Jackson, he established the business and is now general manager for the well known Pure Food Baking Company at Cedar Rapids. This has proved a profitable undertaking and he has surrounded himself with a capable corps of assistants, his brother Frank acting as assistant manager.

Mr. Naibert was married in Cedar Rapids to Miss Anna Vich who, also a native of Bohemia, came to the United States in her childhood days. Their marriage has been blessed with three children, Frank J., Emma Esther and Eugene Edward, all attending school. Mr. Naibert is a devoted member of the Methodist church and also belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In politics he is independent. He finds recreation in playing checkers and displays superior skill for an amateur. He also finds rest and interest in fishing, exercise in which he is usually accompanied by his family. He is likewise regarded as authority upon mushrooms and seems always to know where the finest specimens grow. In fact he is a lover of nature in its various forms and many of his happiest hours are spent in the wilds.

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### FRANK FILIP

With large capacity for labor and wise in its distribution and application, Frank Filip has worked his way upward from a humble position to a prominent place in the financial circles of Cedar Rapids, being now cashier of the Security Savings Bank. To follow his career is to study the life record of one who has worked with greater persistency, with greater wisdom, and secured larger results than the average, and not only has he availed himself of existing opportunities but has created many not observed by the usual passer-by.

Born in Bohemia on the 26th of September, 1875, he is a son of Anton and Marie (Seidl) Filip, both of whom are natives of Bohemia, where they were reared and married. Leaving their native land they sailed, as it were, into the unknown in 1887, and landed at Baltimore, Maryland, August 12, arriving in the United States as strangers in a strange land, with the language of which they were unfamiliar. Reports, however, having reached them concerning Cedar Rapids, to this place they directed their steps and at length safely arrived at their destination. The father was a millwright by trade and for a short time after coming to Cedar Rapids followed that pursuit, while later he gave his attention to the trade of a machinist, remaining in that industrial field up to the time of his death, which occurred February 28, 1908. His wife still survives and now resides with her son Frank.

When a youth of twelve years Frank Filip accompanied his parents to the new world, supplementing his education, acquired in the schools of his native country, by study in the public schools of Cedar Rapids and also by instruction from a private tutor. In his youthful days he manifested notable ambition and enterprise, and during the periods of vacation ere his school days were over he was always employed, seeking service that would yield him a good remuneration. His father wished him to learn a trade, and at the age of sixteen years he was apprenticed to John Thomas, a harness-maker, with whom he remained for three years, during which time he diligently applied himself to the mastery of the business. He became very competent and was thus able to command good wages, but owing





to a misunderstanding with the foreman of the shoe he gave up his position and started as a laborer at one dollar and fifteen cents per day for the old Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railway Company. Later, through the intercession of John E. Playter, at that time teller of the Cedar Rapids National Bank, he was made a messenger in the Security Savings Bank, entering upon his duties on the 24th of December, 1894. From that humble position he gradually worked his way upward, being advanced in recognition of his industry and ability, so that after filling various positions in the bank he came in time to be appointed assistant cashier in January, 1904. His work was a training school for the duties that now devolve upon him. He acquainted himself fully with the work of the cashier, so that on the 12th of January, 1909, he was well qualified for the position when appointed cashier. His labors are now contributing to the success of the institution and his record proves the efficacy of unfaltering industry and perseverance, combined with business probity above question.

On the 12th of November, 1902, Mr. Filip was married to Miss Marie A. Burianek, of Cedar Rapids, and they now have three children, Frank, Edward and Rosemary. Mr. Filip is a republican where national questions are involved but stands untrammelled by party ties in local affairs, exercising his right of franchise as he deems for the best interests of the community. He is a member of the Sokol Gymnastic Association and in 1909 coached and trained a team of six men, of which he was a member, that in the national contest of all Slavonic societies, held in Chicago in 1909, defeated the Chicago, New York and other teams. On April 29, 1910, this team won the Amateur Athletic Union gymnastic championship of the United States. Mr. Filip is a perfect specimen of the athletic man, of splendid physical proportions, and has won considerable fame in athletic circles.

Fraternally Mr. Filip is connected with Crescent Lodge, No. 25, A. F. & A. M., is a past master and is now treasurer. He belongs also to Trowel Chapter, No. 49, R. A. M.; to John Hus Lodge, No. 51, I. O. O. F.; and to Lodge No. 251, B. P. O. E. He is likewise a member of the Bohemian Amateur Dramatic Club, the C. S. P. S. and several other Bohemian fraternal societies. He is a splendid record of a self-made man, for from boyhood he has been self-dependent and self-reliant. Working in a grocery store in the summer and chopping wood in the winter, afterward serving an apprenticeship at the harness-maker's trade, and later entering the bank in a humble capacity, he is now cashier of one of the leading financial institutions in Cedar Rapids—a record which is only equaled by men of ambition, whose fidelity and purpose is unquestioned, and whose business probity is everywhere recognized.

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### HENRY MARTIN FORSYTHE

Henry Martin Forsythe, deceased, was a machinist who rose to a position of responsibility in connection with railway interests. He was born August 16, 1825, and died on the 27th of June, 1902, having reached the age of seventy-seven years. His birth occurred in Hickory, Pennsylvania, and he was a son of John and Rebecca (Baird) Forsythe. The father came from County Down, Ireland, to the new world and settled in Pennsylvania, where he lived for a number of years. He afterward removed with his family to Ohio, where he followed farming, continuing to reside in that state until his life's labors were ended in death.

Henry M. Forsythe was the tenth in order of birth in a family of twelve children and was reared upon the Ohio farm, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the farm boy as he aids in tilling the fields and in cultivating and harvesting the crops. He acquired his education in the district schools and afterward learned the tanner's trade, but did not follow it. Instead



he went to Hanover, Indiana, where he engaged in running a sawmill in connection with a partner, there continuing for about eight years. He next came to Linn county, where he accepted odd jobs, doing any work that would yield him an honest living. Later he turned his attention to railway interests and was in charge of machinist's work, being thus connected up to the time of his death. He possessed good mechanical ability and along machinist's lines worked his way upward to a position of considerable responsibility.

On the 24th of November, 1852, Mr. Forsythe was united in marriage to Miss Helen Lang Anderson, whose people came from Scotland and settled in Kentucky. Subsequently they removed to Indiana, where her father, William Anderson, carried on farming. His wife bore the maiden name of Margaret Harper. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Forsythe were born eight children: Alice, now deceased; Emma Harper, who is engaged in teaching school; Clarence B., who married Carrie Porter; Minard A.; Lavinia M., a school teacher; Elida May, deceased; Evelina, the wife of S. W. Brainard, by whom she has four children — Sydney F., Kenneth A., Helen Caryl and Henry S.; and Harry H., who was the youngest of the family and is now deceased.

Mr. Forsythe belonged to the United Presbyterian church and his life was ever an upright and honorable one, in harmony with his professions. He at all times endeavored to follow the golden rule, doing unto others as he would have them do unto him, and his many sterling qualities won him the respect, confidence and good will of those with whom he was associated.

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#### GEORGE W. SMITH

The death of George W. Smith, which occurred on the 4th of March, 1910, came as a distinct loss to Linn county. It is a difficult task to offer a fitting memorial to the life and accomplishments of a man of his character — remarkable in the breadth of his wisdom and in his indomitable perseverance, his strong individuality, and yet one whose entire life was an open scroll, inviting the closest scrutiny.

He was born in Boone county, Indiana, on the 19th of September, 1853, and a year later was brought by his parents, John and Martha (Pickerill) Smith, to Linn county, the family home being established on a farm of eighty acres in College township. The father, who was of English ancestry, was a native of Ohio but at an early day removed to Boone county, Indiana, where his life was spent until his removal to Linn county, Iowa, in 1854. His wife, who was born November 16, 1835, died in this county on the 5th of February, 1861, when but twenty-six years of age. The father afterward married Ruth Pickerill, a sister of his first wife, who still survives, now residing in Cedar Rapids. One of his sons, J. C. Smith, is a resident of College township, while a daughter, Mrs. Julia E. Booth, is also a resident of that township. The father, as above stated, began life in Linn county on eighty acres of land but through hard work and the able assistance of his sons he accumulated wealth, owning at the time of his death about seven hundred and sixty acres of very valuable land in this section of the state. He was a highly respected citizen, who lived to be seventy-four years of age, dying in 1902.

George W. Smith spent the period of his early boyhood and youth on the home farm in College township and at the usual age began his studies in the public schools. The knowledge there acquired was supplemented by a course in Western College, at that time located at Western, Iowa, and in a commercial college at Burlington. He graduated from the latter institution in the year he attained his majority, after which he engaged in teaching in College township





GEORGE W. SMITH





for several years. At the age of twenty-seven years he was married and established his home on a farm, for he preferred as a life work the occupation to which he had been reared. He inherited one hundred and sixty acres from his father and added eighty acres through purchase, so that his land holdings comprised two hundred and forty acres, situated in section 21, College township. He carried on general farming and stock-raising and was unusually successful in his work. About 1905 he erected a fine modern home, supplied with many conveniences, and in the rear of which are seen substantial outbuildings. He displayed splendid business ability in the management of his affairs and in addition to his farming interests found time for cooperation in other movements of a public nature, at one time owning stock in the Peoples Bank. He was also a director of the West Side Mutual Insurance Company of Cedar Rapids, of which he was acting as president at the time of his demise, and was also part owner of a plantation in Louisiana. He was ever alert to the opportunities that were presented and while he became prosperous he attained to this position only through the most honorable methods.

It was on the 15th of May, 1880, that the marriage of Mr. Smith and Miss Amelia E. Borghart was celebrated. She was born April 15, 1862, a daughter of Henry and Jane (Fuhrmeister) Borghart, farming people of College township. Mrs. Smith acquired her education in the public schools and proved to her husband a most faithful companion and helpmate on the journey of life. Their union was blessed with three sons and one daughter but the first born, George F., whose birth occurred October 9, 1881, died on the 15th of March, 1882. The other children are: Charles R., who was born February 21, 1883, and since his father's death has, with his brother, managed the home farm; Earl John, who was born June 27, 1886; and Martha Hortense, who was born March 14, 1895. She completed the public school course in the fall of 1910 entered Coe College at Cedar Rapids.

In the spring of 1878 Mr. Smith was converted to the Christian faith and united with the Evangelical church, of which he was a most devoted member to the date of his death. For many years he served as a trustee of the church and also for a long period filled the office of Sunday-school superintendent. In politics he was a democrat and his fidelity and public spirit is perhaps best attested by the fact that for twenty-five years he served his township as clerk, while for three years he was township trustee. His fraternal relations were with Ely Lodge, No. 581, I. O. O. F., and his widow belongs to the Rebekahs. He was a most unselfish man, his sole aim in life being to do good and to serve the public to the best of his ability. His advice and counsel were often sought by his fellowmen and to those whose good fortune and pleasure it was to know him intimately, his companionship and friendship were appreciated and helpful. With him there was no turning aside from right and duty but his everyday life reflected the true Christian character. In his relations with his fellowmen and in his treatment of his neighbor he never lost sight of the principle of the golden rule. All who knew him feel his loss but he is missed most of all in his own household, where he was known as a kind and loving husband and father.

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#### EDWIN R. FINSON

Through the cultivation of the rich soil of Linn county Edwin R. Finson finds scope for his activity and is now the owner of a farm of one hundred and forty-eight acres, located in Buffalo township. He is a native of the county, born in Central City, September 2, 1879, a son of Lee R. and Ida E. (McKenny) Finson, the former a native of Maine and the latter of Linn county. The father was a little



lad of five years when he was brought by his parents to Linn county and here he was reared and educated, while in 1879 he was united in marriage to Miss McKenny. Following their marriage they located on a farm in Maine township, where they have since made their home, and he is now cultivating a tract of two hundred and twenty-two acres, being numbered among the substantial and well-to-do farmers of the northern part of Linn county.

Edwin R. Finson remained at home until he attained his majority, his public-school education being supplemented by a business course. At the age of twenty-three years he engaged in teaching school, following that profession during the winter months for six years, while in the summer seasons he gave his attention to farming. In due time he purchased his present farm in Buffalo township and on the 25th of November, 1908, completed arrangements for having a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Mary H. Porter, a daughter of John Porter, now deceased. Mr. Finson immediately brought his bride to the home which he had prepared for her and from that time to the present has been actively and energetically engaged in cultivating his land. On his farm he has a good residence and outbuildings and everything about the place is kept in good condition, method being one of the strong features in the conduct of his business.

Mr. Finson favors the principles of the republican party but is rather liberal in his views, supporting men and measures rather than adhering to party. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Freewill Baptist church and Mrs. Finson is identified with the Methodist denomination. They are popular young people, worthy representatives of old and honored pioneer families in Linn county, and hospitality of their pleasant country home is enjoyed by their numerous friends.

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### J. F. RALL

J. F. Rall, president of the Commercial Club and publisher of labor saving lodge books, was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, on the 18th of March, 1863, the son of the Rev. O. Rall, a minister of the Evangelical church. Coming to Iowa in 1868 the family settled in Council Bluffs. The ministerial labors of Rev. Rall, however, carried him to various sections of the state and he took an active part in promoting the moral development of Iowa.

J. F. Rall was a pupil in the public schools until sixteen years of age when he began providing for his own support as a clerk in the postoffice of Ackley, Iowa. Later he served as a clerk in the postoffice at Iowa Falls, and in 1887 he came to Cedar Rapids, where he has now made his home for twenty-three years. Soon after his arrival here he secured a position as cashier at this point with the United States Express Company, in which capacity he served until 1893. About that time he established his present publishing business which he has since conducted with growing and gratifying success. He was also elected justice of the peace in 1894 and filled that office until 1905 when his business had developed to such a point that it required his undivided attention. He then withdrew from his official position in which he had proven most capable, his decisions being strictly fair and impartial, so that he "won golden opinions from all sorts of people."

For a long period Mr. Rall has been an enthusiastic supporter of the interests of Cedar Rapids and has done everything in his power to advance the interests of the city. Prior to the organization of the Cedar Rapids Commercial Club, meetings were held in his office to discuss the subject of how best to promote the city's growth and commercial enterprises. The preliminary meetings resulted in the organization of the Commercial Club of which Mr. Rall became a member and in that connection an active and prominent factor in the city's progress. In





January, 1909, he was chosen president of the club in which capacity he has since ably served.

In September, 1896, Mr. Rall was married to Miss Florence E. Ashby, of Centerville, Iowa, and unto them were born four children, namely: Richard, Staten, Owen and Everett. The parents hold membership in the First Congregational church of which Mr. Rall is treasurer and in the work of which he manifests a most helpful interest. He is a Scottish Rite Mason, a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and Redmen. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and his office was headquarters for the committee that secured the adoption of the commission plan for this city. He favors everything that tends to promote reform and progress in municipal affairs and his public-spirited citizenship is manifest in practical, beneficial and far-reaching effects.

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### LEWIS DOBROVSKY

Lewis Dobrovsky is the owner of eighty-three and one-half acres of well improved farm land, located on section 20, College township. He is a native of Bohemia, born on the 24th day of February, 1853, a son of Anthony and Theresa (Rypka) Dobrovsky, who in 1855 emigrated to the new world and settled in Linn county on thirty acres of unbroken prairie land. They reared a family of four sons and five daughters, as follows: Lewis, of this review; Joseph and Frank, who live retired in Cedar Rapids; Wesley, who is engaged in the real-estate and grocery business in that city; Mrs. Anna Bitner, of Solon, Iowa; Mrs. Pauline Fisha, a resident of Cedar Rapids; Mrs. Sylvia Tlapa and Mrs. Mary Korab, both of Iowa City; and Mrs. Frances Mitalsky, now deceased. The father, who was born in 1825, departed this life on the 25th of September, 1877, while the mother died in June, 1901, at the age of seventy-three years, her birth having occurred in 1828.

Lewis Dobrovsky, the eldest child in his father's family, was but two years of age when brought by his parents to the United States. He attended the public schools of Linn county and remained under the parental roof until he reached the age of twenty-seven years, at which time he was married and established his home on a farm of eighty acres, situated in College township. He later added to this a tract of eighty acres, so that his farm later embraced one hundred and sixty-three and a half acres on section 20, College township, his second purchase being formerly owned by his brother Joseph. He has since sold eighty acres of his land. Although Mr. Dobrovsky still makes his home on his farm, he is now practically living retired, having since 1906 rented the land to his son-in-law, Milo C. Vonderecek, who carries on general farming.

Mr. Dobrovsky was married in 1880 to Miss Anna Zalesky, their marriage being celebrated on the 7th of February of that year. Mrs. Dobrovsky was born December 6, 1860, a daughter of Frank and Anna Zalesky, farming people of College township, both now deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Dobrovsky have been born three daughters and one son, namely: Mary, born May 30, 1881, is now the wife of Anton Reigel of Cedar Rapids and has two sons, Leo and Lester; Frank, born October 12, 1882, also makes his home in Cedar Rapids and has two daughters, Leonora and Martha; Emma, born January 19, 1884, is the wife of Milo C. Vonderecek, residing on her father's farm, and they have one child, Marguerite; and Tillie, born October 16, 1886, is the wife of Frank Konigsmark of College township, who is mentioned on another page of this volume, and they have two children, Lumir and Alma.

Mr. Dobrovsky is a democrat in his political views and affiliations and by his fellow townsmen has been called to fill some local offices. For twenty-five years he has served as road supervisor and has also acted as township trustee, while for





five terms he acted as school director. He has ever discharged his duties with the same loyalty and fidelity that he displays in the management of his private business affairs. Fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen. He has never been known to betray any trust reposed in him, and this combined with the honorable methods he has ever employed in his dealings with his fellowmen has brought him the high esteem in which he is uniformly held.

### GEORGE THOMAS GADD

George Thomas Gadd, president and treasurer of one of the leading retail hardware concerns in eastern Iowa, occupying a prominent and enviable position in mercantile circles in Cedar Rapids, was born in Oskaloosa, this state, on the 5th of January, 1873. His father, Enoch Thomas Gadd, a native of Ohio, located in Davenport in 1850, having come to that place in company with Ex-Governor Sherman of Iowa, and there engaged in general merchandising. Later he removed to Des Moines, where he engaged in the life insurance business. During his residence there he became recognized as a public-spirited citizen and served as a trustee of Drake College. After several years he removed to Dallas, Texas, where he engaged in the manufacture of barbed wire for a period of six years, and served for some time as deputy United States marshal, but the north proved to him more attractive than the south and he returned to Davenport, where the succeeding year was passed. At the end of that time he went to Oskaloosa and again reentered the field of life insurance, conducting business in that line until 1888, when he organized the firm of Hatcher, Gadd & Company and turned his attention to real-estate operation at Omaha, Nebraska. He platted and laid out what is now South Omaha at a time when the city was undergoing a boom, prices in real estate advancing very rapidly. In connection with the development of his real-estate interests Mr. Gadd bent every energy toward the improvement of the city and was largely instrumental in securing the location of the Union Pacific Railroad shops at Cheyenne, Wyoming. He also made the sale of the lands now occupied by the shops. Greatly interested in the Christian church and its projects, he was not only connected with Drake University at Des Moines, a school under the auspices of that church, but was also in charge of the finances or endowment fund of the Cotner University, a Christian church school at Lincoln, Nebraska. After leaving Omaha he resided at Lincoln for five years and then retired from active business life, removing to St. Paul, Minnesota, where he remained until 1905. In that year he came to Cedar Rapids but passed away while visiting in St. Paul and his remains were interred in the family burying ground in that city. He was a man of enterprising spirit and determined purpose and his success largely lay in the fact that he had the ability to recognize and utilize opportunities that others passed heedlessly by. His family consisted of four sons and one daughter: Talbot R., Fred H., L. A. and Alice, the wife of the Rev. A. D. Harmon, all residents of St. Paul; and George T., the subject of this review. The mother of George T. Gadd bore the maiden name of Sarah Hartzell. She was a native of Warren county, Ohio, and a daughter of Rev. Jonas Hartzell, one of the first ministers of the Christian church in Iowa. He began his ministerial labors in this state in Scott county and did much to spread the gospel according to the teachings of his church in this state. Mrs. Gadd passed away in 1900 and her grave is beside the grave of her husband in St. Paul, Minnesota.

George Thomas Gadd was educated at Cotner's University in Lincoln. After leaving school he went with his parents to St. Paul, Minnesota, and entered business life in connection with the Hackett Walthers Gates Hardware Company, with which he remained for twelve years, going upon the road as a traveling sales-



man. He then purchased the business of the Cedar Rapids Hardware Company and changed the name to the Gadd Boynton Company, while in 1907 the name became the Gadd Hardware Company. Under this caption the business still continues and the house has become one of the leading retail hardware establishments of eastern Iowa. It is governed by the best known business principles, sells merchandise of trustworthy quality, maintains as low prices as are commensurate with good service, and by fair dealing has won a liberal patronage. Mr. Gadd also owns extensive real estate in Montana and in business affairs displays notably sound judgment.

Mr. Gadd was married to Miss Marjorie Hall, a daughter of Dr. O. H. and Delia (Mead) Hall, of St. Paul, Minnesota, October 12, 1904. He has attained high rank in Masonry, belonging to Mount Hermon Lodge, A. F. & A. M., while in the Iowa Consistory, No. 2, he has attained the thirty-second degree. In politics he is independent, yet is never remiss in the duties of citizenship. He belongs to the Commercial Club of Cedar Rapids and the Union of Commercial Travelers and his chief source of recreation is hunting and fishing. Religiously he is a member of the First Christian church. Because of the innate refinement of his nature he rejects everything opposed to good taste. He is nevertheless an alert, energetic business man, to whom obstacles seem but a spur to further effort.

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#### HENRY GRUPE, JR.

Henry Grupe, Jr., after a long, active and industrious life, by which he acquired two hundred and one acres of valuable land in Linn county, is now living retired, enjoying the fruits of his former labor. As the name indicates, he comes of German parentage, although he was born in Cook county, Illinois, March 15, 1855. His parents were Henry and Henrietta (Campe) Grupe, both natives of the fatherland, and the latter was related to a German nobleman. The parents emigrated to America in 1854 and established their home in Cook county, Illinois, where the father died in 1863. The mother continued to reside in Cook county for a few years, there rearing her family of six children, of whom three are now living, but in 1877 she accompanied her son Henry to Linn county. Here she continued to reside up to within the last year of her life, when she returned to Cook county, Illinois, and there passed away in 1884. Her father participated in the battle of Waterloo under the command of Wellington.

Henry Grupe was reared to years of maturity in Cook county, Illinois, and during the years of his boyhood and youth he pursued his studies in the common schools of that locality. In 1877, when a young man of twenty-two years, he came to Linn county, Iowa, and purchased eighty acres of land in Otter Creek township. After making his home thereon for five years he disposed of that tract and invested his money in another eighty-acre tract located northeast of Marion, on which he resided for eleven years. He then purchased forty acres adjoining the city limits of Marion and subsequently added another eighty-acre tract to his possessions. He devoted a portion of his time to raising general crops but made a specialty of raising and feeding stock and in this branch of business he was particularly successful. He has now put aside business cares, however, and is living retired. He has recently sold his farm of forty-one acres northwest of Marion and will erect a modern residence on his farm northeast of that city. He deserves much credit for the excellent management and business ability he has displayed, for the success he has attained in life is due entirely to his own efforts and labors in earlier years.

On the 25th of May, 1882, occurred the marriage of Mr. Grupe and Miss Emma Geffert, who was likewise a native of Cook county, Illinois. She is a representative





of one of the pioneer families of that county, her paternal grandfather having conducted the first hotel in Chicago. She is one of five children whose parents were Frederick and Mary Geffert, both natives of Germany, who emigrated to the new world in an early day. The father departed this life in 1907 but the mother is still living and now makes her home with a daughter, Mrs. C. M. Kennedy, near Marion, Iowa.

By her marriage Mrs. Grupe has become the mother of a daughter and two sons but the parents mourn the untimely death of their elder son, Frederick John, who was born September 6, 1888. On the 8th of April, 1910, he was killed by accident, caused by a runaway horse, and his remains were interred in the Oak Shade cemetery. He was twenty-one years of age and had a host of friends among the young people of his community. The surviving children are: Leona May, who was born May 28, 1883; and Weston, whose birth occurred December 26, 1890. Both are graduates of the Marion high school and are with their parents.

Mr. Grupe is a republican in his political belief and affiliation but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. While he does not accept some of the dogmas of religious bodies and belongs to no church, he is nevertheless deeply religious in thought, is charitable toward those whom he deems worthy of assistance, and in his relations with his fellowmen and in his treatment of his neighbor he never loses sight of the principle of the Golden Rule. In his earlier years he improved his advantages and opportunities and is now enabled to live retired and provide a good home for himself and family, while at the same time he is surrounded by a host of warm friends.

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#### JOSEPH MICHALEK

A well improved farm of one hundred and sixty-seven acres is the home of Joseph Michalek, this property being located in Bertram township. He was born in Bohemia, Austria, in 1859, a son of Joseph and Frances Michalek, who, on their emigration to America in 1875, settled in Johnson county, Iowa, where they made their home until the father's death, which occurred in 1906. The mother now resides in Jones county, this state.

Joseph Michalek spent the period of his early boyhood and youth in his native land and there acquired his education. He was sixteen years of age, when he accompanied his parents on their emigration to the new world, the family home being established on a farm in Johnson county, this state. He subsequently worked at farm labor in Linn county for two years, and then rented a tract of land, which he operated for five years. In the meantime he carefully saved his earnings with the hope that he might sooner or later become the owner of land and at the end of that period he found himself in possession of a sum of money that justified his purchase of forty acres, which he operated for thirteen years. He made many improvements on the farm and placed his fields under a good state of cultivation so that when he sold the property it was much more valuable than when he took possession of the same, and he thus disposed of it at a good profit. In 1902 he bought his present home farm, consisting of one hundred and sixty-seven acres, situated in Bertram township. He carries on general farming and also raises stock and is meeting with success in his work. He has erected good buildings on his farm and it is now one of the best improved in Bertram township.

Mr. Michalek was married on the 7th of May, 1888, to Miss Antonia Faymon, a daughter of John and Josephine Faymon, who were likewise natives of Bohemia, Austria. Their family numbered four daughters and one son but only three are now living, the surviving sisters of Mrs. Michalek being Josephine







MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH MICHALEK



and Frances, still residents of Bohemia. The parents are also deceased, the father passing away in 1869, while the mother, surviving for a long period, departed this life in 1889. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Michalek have been born two sons and three daughters: Joseph, Tena, Josephine, William and Mary, all still under the parental roof. The family are members of the Presbyterian church.

Mr. Michalek's study of the political questions of the day has led him to give his support to the democratic party. He is an industrious and energetic man, spending few idle moments, and this constitutes the basis of his present success.

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### AUGUSTUS AYRES BAUMAN

Augustus Ayres Bauman, the well known editor and proprietor of the Mount Vernon Hawkeye, has spent almost his entire life in Mount Vernon, being only two years of age when brought here by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Bauman. He was born in Dixon, Lee county, Illinois, May 29, 1865. During his boyhood and youth he attended the public schools and after completing the course entered Cornell College, where he further pursued his education. Becoming desirous to enter into actual business, he early sought such active pursuit and at the age of nineteen years became agent at Mount Vernon for the American Express Company, although the agency for a time was in the name of his father.

On the 1st of January, 1892, he entered into active participation in the publication of the Mount Vernon Hawkeye, of which his father was the founder, under the name of S. H. Bauman & Son. In 1900 the senior member of the firm retired and the two sons, Augustus A. and Fred A., assumed the conduct of the business under the name of S. H. Bauman's Sons. In the fall of 1908 Fred A. Bauman retired and since that time our subject has been the owner and publisher of the Hawkeye newspaper and job printing business. He is an enterprising, progressive business man and in the conduct of his paper has met with most excellent success, having built up a large subscription and gained good advertising patronage.

On the 9th of August, 1892, Mr. Bauman was united in marriage to Miss Mary Gilchrist, a daughter of Judge and Mrs. George M. Gilchrist, of Vinton, Iowa. They are quite prominent socially in the city, where Mr. Bauman has spent so much of his life.

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### JAMES DUNN

A descendant of one of the pioneer families of Iowa, James Dunn, who operates one of the finest farms in Linn county and who is the owner of seven hundred and seventy acres of valuable land in Spring Grove township, stands well to the fore as one of the representative citizens of this county. A native of the state, he was born November 5, 1854, in Clinton county, his parents being Alexander and Susan (Crawshaw) Dunn, the former of Irish and the latter of English birth.

Alexander Dunn came to America in 1837 and at once located in Clinton county, Iowa, where he secured a farm of three hundred and twenty acres of raw land. Steadily he improved it, draining the land and erecting a house, barn and the necessary outbuildings, and, as the years rolled past, he continued to improve the place until it became one of the best in that section of the country. There, too, he reared his family of children, all of whom are now residents of the state. For forty-nine years he and his wife lived there and then retired in 1886, locating near Clinton, where he died January 20, 1890. His wife, who survives him, makes



her home with her son James. She is ninety-one years old, yet is hale and hearty, in complete possession of all her faculties and gifted with wonderful memory for the days of the early pioneers.

James Dunn remained with his parents, working upon the home farm until he had attained the age of twenty-one years. Then for a year he operated one of the farms owned by his father in Linn county. His duties called him to his father's place for a time but he later returned to Linn county and operated two hundred and seventy acres of land which he secured from his father. He was remarkably successful and soon purchased five hundred acres of land, which now makes him the owner of seven hundred and seventy acres. This farm he has improved very decidedly, has erected a fine house, four large and commodious barns, sheds for grain and feed, cattle and storage of machinery, and has erected a fine sixty-foot steel-tower wind-mill.

Miss Mary Dunn, the daughter of Patrick and Elizabeth Dunn, both natives of Ireland, became the wife of James Dunn on the 13th of November, 1879. There were six children born of this union, namely: James A., who is married and is living in Spring Grove township; Arthur E., who is married and is living in South Dakota; Ernest G., Charles H., Edna V. and Leo M., all living at home, the last named being but two years old.

Mr. Dunn's political allegiance has been given to the democracy but he has never sought office, his business affairs and his home being the recipients of his entire attention and energy. Fraternally he is connected with the Mutual Brotherhood Association of Alburnett, Iowa, while he and his family affiliate with the Methodist church. Using his opportunities to the best advantage, he has made an enviable record as an alert, enterprising business man and has won a pleasurable amount of success as a result of his energy and ability.

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#### C. D. VAN VECHTEN

C. D. Van Vechten, general agent for the Central Agency of the Northwestern Insurance Company of Milwaukee and a director and second vice president of the Security Savings Bank, ranks with the prominent and representative business men of Cedar Rapids — men who are energetic and resourceful, improving the opportunities that others pass by heedlessly and instituting original business methods for the promotion of the interests in which they are concerned and which constitute sources of the city's material growth and upbuilding.

Mr. Van Vechten was born in Lewis county, New York, September 4, 1839, and is a son of Gilbert and Ilona (Bent) Van Vechten, the former a native of Cherry Valley, Montgomery county, New York, and the latter of Lewis county, that state. The father became a resident farmer of Lewis county, where he died at the comparatively early age of forty-three years. Some time following his demise his widow came to Cedar Rapids to make her home among her children and here she lived to the advanced age of ninety years, retaining unimpaired her physical and mental faculties up to the time of her death. She was a woman of strong intellect and related in most interesting manner many reminiscences of pioneer times.

C. D. Van Vechten spent his early youth on the old homestead farm in the Empire state, but in his sixteenth year, following his father's death, the family was broken up and he made his way westward to Michigan, hoping to find good business opportunities in that state. After a year spent in Battle Creek he went to Kalamazoo and for two years attended Kalamazoo College, completing the work of the sophomore year. On attaining his majority he married a farmer's daughter, Miss Ada A. Fitch, who resided twelve miles west of Kalamazoo, and in order to





provide for the home which he then established he engaged in general merchandising and in the lumber business in the town of Mattawan, Michigan. From the beginning he prospered in that undertaking and for fifteen years continued in those lines of trade. The lumber business was developed to extensive proportions and constituted an important feature in the commercial activity of the town until the building of the Kalamazoo & South Haven Railroad, about twelve miles north of Mattawan, when the market was taken away from the town. As there was no future outlook there Mr. Van Vechten in 1876 disposed of his business and removed to Minneapolis, where he assisted his brother in the conduct of a loan business. The year 1877, however, witnessed his arrival in Cedar Rapids, his brother Giles F., his former Minneapolis business associate, having preceded him to this place in November, 1876. He had then opened the private bank of G. F. Van Vechten and following his arrival C. D. Van Vechten was for seven years associated with his brother as cashier of the bank. In August, 1884, he was offered and accepted the secretaryship of a fire insurance company of Cedar Rapids. The capital of this company was impaired at the time, a fact not actually known until the end of the year when the annual statement was made. The directory of the company then decided to go into liquidation and made arrangement with the Continental Fire Insurance Company of New York for gradual reinsurance of its business. Mr. Van Vechten had charge of this business, taking four years in its accomplishment.

In February, 1888, Mr. Van Vechten accepted the district agency of the Northwestern Life Insurance Company under the general management of Homer A. Munger, of Cedar Rapids, continuing his efforts under the supervision of Mr. Munger until the latter's death in September, 1903. At that date Iowa was redistricted and Mr. Van Vechten was made general agent of the Central Agency of this state. In the field of insurance he has been very successful, his field covering about fourteen per cent of the entire state and producing twenty-eight per cent of that company's 1909 business. His office ranks eighth among about one hundred agencies of the Northwestern Life Insurance in the United States in the amount of business done according to the population of the agencies. Nor does Mr. Van Vechten give his entire attention to insurance, for on the organization of the Cedar Rapids National Bank he became a stockholder of the institution and was made a member of the board of directors, in which capacity he has since served. On the organization of the Security Savings Bank he also became a stockholder, was later made a member of its board of directors and recently was chosen to the office of second vice president of the bank. He is likewise a stockholder and director in the Frick-Stearns-Russell Grocery Company, wholesale grocers in Cedar Rapids. His business judgment is sound, his insight keen and his energy unflinching, and those qualities stand as strong concomitants in the prosperity with which his labors have been rewarded.

On the 8th of August, 1861, as previously stated, Mr. Van Vechten wedded Miss Ada A. Fitch, and they became parents of three children. Ralph, the eldest, is now the first vice president of the Commercial Bank of Chicago and resides at No. 1415 Hyde Park boulevard in that city. He is also the president of the Cedar Rapids National Bank and one of its heaviest stockholders. Emma is the wife of C. K. Shaffer, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: Carl is musical critic and reporter on the New York Times. The wife and mother passed away November 12, 1905, and in November, 1907, Mr. Van Vechten was again married, his second union being with Mrs. N. O. Lawton. They reside at No. 845 Second avenue in Cedar Rapids.

Mr. Van Vechten is a member of Mount Hermon Lodge, No. 263, F. & A. M.; Trowel Chapter, R. A. M.; Iowa Consistory, No. 2, A. A. S. R.; and El Kahir Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. He is likewise identified with the Cedar Rapids Country Club and with the Universalist church. His political allegiance is given



to the republican party and for four or five years he served as a member of the city council, exercising his official prerogatives in support of many measures for the general good. He is alert and in his life exemplifies the enterprising spirit of the times. His judgment is too sound not to recognize the fact that success depends upon close application and capable management and, therefore, he has utilized those qualities in winning the creditable position which he now fills, being highly esteemed in both insurance and banking circles.

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#### WILLIAM P. ESREY

William P. Esrey, who is managing the old homestead farm comprising two hundred and fifteen acres, is numbered among the young and enterprising farmers of Linn county. He was born in Clinton township, November 19, 1879, a son of Joseph W. and Etta Esrey. The former, a native of Delaware county, Pennsylvania, purchased one hundred and sixty-one acres of land in Fairfax township on coming to Linn county. Locating on this land he continued to make it his home until 1885, when he disposed of it and removed to what was known as the old Scott farm, which was inherited by his wife. From that time until his death, which occurred in December, 1899, Mr. Esrey was identified with the development and improvement of the latter place and became a successful man.

William P. Esrey pursued his studies in the district schools of Clinton township until his sixteenth year, when he entered the Cedar Rapids high school, which he attended for one year. The knowledge there acquired was supplemented by one year's study in the Cedar Rapids Business College and thus well equipped for the responsibilities of life he resumed work on the farm. Since the death of his father he has been managing the homestead for his mother, the tract embracing two hundred and fifteen acres on section 29, Clinton township. He follows the most modern methods in carrying on his work and his labors are rewarded by gratifying returns each year. He keeps on his farm good grades of stock, having about one hundred head of hogs.

On the 19th of December, 1904, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Esrey and Miss Margaret Rogers, and to them have been born two daughters: Anna, aged four years, and Margaret, who died August 16, 1910, at the age of one year. In politics Mr. Esrey is a republican. He is a wide-awake, energetic farmer and business man, and both he and his wife are highly respected in the community where they make their home.

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#### SAMUEL G. SMITH

Samuel G. Smith who, since 1901 has lived retired, was formerly identified with general agricultural pursuits and is still the owner of two hundred and fifty-one acres of good land on section 23, Clinton township. A native of Pennsylvania, he was born in McKean county on the 16th of June, 1838, and is a son of Samuel and Catharine Smith. The father was born in Big Island, Pennsylvania, in 1805, and was engaged in merchant tailoring and in farming while in the east. In 1854 he came to the middle west, settling in Linn county, Iowa, his home being in Rapids township, where he carried on farming for more than three decades. His was a busy and useful life and he continued in active connection with general agricultural interests until 1885 when he retired to spend his remaining days in the enjoyment of a well earned rest. His death occurred in 1896.





S. G. SMITH







MRS. S. G. SMITH



Samuel G. Smith attended the public schools of Smithport, Pennsylvania, until 1854 when he came to Linn county with his parents. Here he continued his education as a pupil in the district schools for two years and on putting aside his text-books he became his father's assistant in the work of the home farm, to which he devoted his time and energies until twenty-one years of age. On attaining his majority he started out in life on his own account and, removing to Clinton township, rented land which he cultivated until 1865. During that time he bought eighty acres and to it added from time to time until he owned one hundred and twenty acres. His attention was given to the further development of the property until 1884 when he sold that place and invested in two hundred and fifty-one acres on section 23, Clinton township, which he improved and cultivated for seventeen years and which his son has operated since Mr. Smith retired from active business life in 1901.

Mr. Smith was married in Rapids township, Linn county, to Miss Martha Fairbanks, the wedding being celebrated on the 30th of September, 1858. The groom was a young man of twenty years and his wife still younger. She was a daughter of William and Sarah Fairbanks and by her marriage she has become the mother of eight children, five of whom are living, namely: William H., now fifty years of age, who is engaged in farming in Buchanan county, Iowa; Ellis E., forty-six years of age, who carries on general agricultural pursuits in Benton county, Iowa; Samuel G., forty years of age, who is engaged in farming in Buchanan county, Iowa; Mrs. Belle Lazenby, who occupies a farm in Linn county, Iowa; and Robert F., twenty-eight years of age, who manages his father's farm.

In his political views Mr. Smith is a democrat and while he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, he has never sought nor desired office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs. He has now passed the seventy-second milestone on life's journey and his has been an active and useful life, crowned not only with success but also with the respect and good will of his fellowmen.

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#### GEORGE A. CAMPBELL

George A. Campbell, chief engineer in the engine room of the Cedar Rapids & Iowa City Railway & Light Company, was born in the province of Ontario, Canada, November 8, 1869, a son of Hector and Rachel (McBurney) Campbell, the former born amid the highlands of Scotland, while the latter was a native of Belfast, Ireland. In his childhood days Hector Campbell was brought to America by his sister, who established her home in Canada, and the mother of our subject came to the new world in her girlhood days with her parents. The father lived and died in Canada, where for many years he engaged in business as a contractor and builder and also operated a planing mill and lumber yards in the town of Ingersoll. About 1895, after the death of her husband, Mrs. Campbell came to Cedar Rapids and made her home with her son.

George A. Campbell was reared under the parental roof and supplemented his early education acquired in the common schools of his native county by a special course in engineering and electrical work pursued under the direction of the International Correspondence Schools of Scranton, Pennsylvania. When about seventeen years of age he was employed as engineer in his father's shops and was continued in the same position by his father's successor. On the 23d of May, 1889, he crossed the border into the United States and for a short time was employed by the American Cereal Company, after which he secured a situation in the power houses of the Chicago City Railway Company, there remaining until January, 1892, working in all three power houses of that city, including the one



at Fifty-second and State streets; Twenty-first and State streets; and Fifty-fifth and Cottage Grove avenue. In January, 1892, he arrived in Cedar Rapids to accept the position of night engineer at this point for the American Cereal Company, with which he continued until June 7, 1893, when he accepted a position with the Cedar Rapids & Iowa City Railway & Light Company. This connection has since been maintained, but in August, 1906, he was promoted to the position of chief engineer. The promotion was well merited for he had proven his worth and as the years have gone on he has made his service of value to the company which he represents.

On the 20th of July, 1897, Mr. Campbell was married to Miss Mary Edwards, of Cedar Rapids. They are members of the Presbyterian church and have won many friends in this city. Mr. Campbell belongs to Cedar Rapids Lodge, No. 9, National Association of Stationary Engineers; and is also identified with Main Lodge, No. 643, I. O. O. F., and Cedar Rapids Lodge, No. 278, A. O. U. W. He is a well known representative of industrial interests, has become widely known in his adopted city and his personal worth, as well as his business ability, has gained him firm holds on the regard of those with whom he has been associated.

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### DOMINICK FEIEREISEN

Dominick Feiereisen, connected with the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company at Cedar Rapids, was born in the grand duchy of Luxemburg, January 6, 1872. His parents, Henry L. and Marie (Shuster) Feiereisen, were also natives of Luxemburg and in 1880 emigrated to the United States, their son Dominick being at that time a lad of but eight years. The father made his way to Chicago, where he engaged in the operation of a sawmill and in carpentering, following those lines of industrial activity for fifteen years. He afterward turned his attention to the liquor business, in which he continued until his death, passing away at the age of fifty-six years. His wife had previously died, being fifty years of age at the time of her demise. Both parents were laid to rest in a Chicago cemetery.

Dominick Feiereisen was educated in the public schools of Chicago, but at the early age of fourteen years was obliged to start out in life on his own account. He afterward supplemented his early education by study in night schools and experience has also largely broadened his knowledge. He was first employed by the Swift Packing Company, there remaining until 1891, when he entered the service of S. Oppenheimer, of Chicago, to act as foreman of his plant located at Cedar Rapids. He afterward became foreman for the T. M. Sinclair Packing Company of Cedar Rapids and his fidelity and ability are attested in the fact that he occupied the position for seventeen years. He has since been employed by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company, which he represents in both the freight and passenger departments at Cedar Rapids, the position being one of considerable responsibility.

In 1893 Mr. Feiereisen was united in marriage to Miss Mary Dite, of Chicago, and unto them have been born two children: Jeannette and Thomas, both of whom are pupils in the public schools. The family are of the Catholic faith and Mr. Feiereisen gives his political support to the democracy. He is prominent in the local ranks of the party and has twice been elected a member of the city council, receiving endorsement of his first term in a reelection. He has also acted in an official capacity in numerous fraternities. He was secretary of Court Cedar, No. 3, of the Foresters of America, grand secretary for the jurisdiction of Iowa and Minnesota for six years in the Foresters of America, has been master and past master of the lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, holds membership





with the Modern Woodmen of America and is a member of Mount Hermon Lodge, No. 263, A. F. & A. M. When leisure permits he enjoys fishing and boating, but his life on a whole has been a very busy one from the time that he was fourteen years of age to the present. His industry and perseverance have been the salient features in achievements which have brought him a substantial measure of success.

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### B. W. LONG

B. W. Long follows farming and stock-raising and owns a valuable farm of two hundred and thirty-seven acres, located on sections 31 and 32, Jackson township, and sections 5 and 6, Maine township. He was born in the latter township, December 28, 1861, a son of David P. and Mary E. (Bowen) Long, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work.

B. W. Long was reared under the parental roof and was accorded good educational advantages, pursuing a college course. After reaching mature years he purchased a farm of seventy-five acres in Jackson township, just west of Paris, and there he made his home for six years. He then disposed of that land and purchased the farm on which he now makes his home, this tract comprising two hundred and thirty-seven acres in Jackson and Maine townships. He has made improvements on his farm and it is now one of the valuable properties of his section of Linn county. In addition to carrying on general farming, he raises and feeds stock, keeping shorthorn cattle. In all his undertakings he is meeting with a success that classes him with the substantial citizens of the county.

On the 1st of November, 1894, Mr. Long was married to Miss Anna B. McBurney, who was born in Linn county, a daughter of John T. and Elizabeth McBurney, both of whom were natives of Ohio. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Long were born four children, two daughters and two sons: Mary E., a high-school student at Central City; John D.; Ellen; and Benjamin W. The wife and mother was called to her final rest July 2, 1904, her remains being interred in the Blodgett cemetery.

In his political views Mr. Long is a democrat and has served as a member of the school board, the cause of education ever finding in him a warm and stalwart friend. His religious faith is indicated in his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, to which his wife also belonged. Mr. Long is a representative of our best type of American manhood and chivalry. By perseverance, determination and honorable effort, he has overthrown the obstacles which barred his path to success and reached the goal of prosperity, while his genuine worth, broad mind and public spirit have made him a director of public thought and action.

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### THOMAS C. MARTIN

A neat little farm of eighteen acres, located in Marion township, Linn county, is the home of Thomas C. Martin, who is now living retired. He was born in Wayne county, Indiana, August 18, 1851, a son of Isaac N. and Elizabeth S. (Reid) Martin, whose family numbered eight children, of whom four still survive. The father was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, while the mother claimed Indiana as the place of her nativity. The parents located in Linn county, Iowa, in 1856, and the father purchased a tract of timber land in Marion township. This land he cleared and placed under cultivation, making it his home until the time of his death, which occurred March 14, 1879. The mother survived for a few years and passed away on the 2d of April, 1886.



Thomas C. Martin was a little lad of five years when he accompanied his parents on their removal from Indiana to Linn county. He was trained to the work of the home farm, remaining under the parental roof until he had reached his twentieth year. In the meantime he acquired his education in the district schools in the winter seasons, and at the above mentioned age rented a tract of land and thus began business on his own account. He continued to cultivate rented land until 1876, when he purchased a portion of the old homestead farm, on which he lived until 1902. He then put aside business cares and removed to Marion, where for six years he lived a retired life. Not content, however, he purchased eighteen acres of land adjoining his old home place and has since made his home on this. He has found employment and recreation in cultivating his fields and keeping his buildings in repair. He owns altogether one hundred and two acres and he formerly owned another tract of one hundred and twenty acres, which he has disposed of to his son.

Mr. Martin chose as a companion and helpmate for the journey of life, Miss Anna E. Mentzer, their marriage being celebrated on the 12th of September, 1871. Mrs. Martin was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, January 1, 1855, a daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Wiles) Mentzer, in whose family were nine children but two of the number are now deceased. The father was likewise born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and the mother was born in Maryland. Coming to Linn county in 1857, they here spent their remaining days, the father passing away in 1867, while the mother departed this life in 1878. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Martin was blessed with two children but the younger died in infancy, leaving Harry N. as the only survivor. He now resides on the home farm. He was married January 18, 1897, to Miss Mary E. Bear, a daughter of Daniel Bear, and they have three children: Ralph F., and Willard C. and Robert B., twins.

Mr. Martin has always supported the men and measures of the republican party and has served as trustee of Marion township and as school director. Aside from these minor offices, he has never taken a very active part in public life, preferring to devote his time to his private interests. Both he and his wife are consistent members of the Brethren church. They are people of high worth and respectability and their long residence in the county enables them to number their friends and acquaintances by the score.

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#### L. K. HATCH

The business interests of Central City have a worthy representative in L. K. Hatch, who is now devoting his attention to the furniture trade, carrying a large and well selected stock to meet the demands of the public. His life has been spent in the middle west, for he was born near Phillipsburg, Kansas, on the 18th of May, 1880, a son of H. M. Hatch, a native of Illinois. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, removed from his native state to Iowa when a young man and here entered the army, serving for ninety days. After receiving an honorable discharge he returned to this state and located in Central City, where he made his home until his removal to Kansas, remaining there about two years. Subsequently he again became a resident of Linn county, this time making his home near Paris and later near Central City, where he died in 1893. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Sadie B. Jordan, was born in Maine and was but twelve years of age when she accompanied her parents on their removal to the west. She died one year after the death of her husband. In the family of this worthy couple were six children: Olive M., the wife of William Trueblood, of Colorado; Angie H., the wife of L. E. Brookman, a merchant of Central City;





L. K., whose name introduces this sketch; Lydia, the wife of L. A. Jester, an attorney at law and real-estate dealer of Des Moines; Alie, who died in infancy; and Livona, also deceased.

L. K. Hatch was provided with a good practical education during his youth, completing his studies in the high school of Central City. After leaving school he turned his attention to the more practical duties of life and for seven years has now been engaged in the furniture business, in which he has met with well deserved success, for he is a good, reliable business man, whose methods are above question and who, by his straightforward dealing, has gained the confidence and respect of those with whom he has been brought in contact.

In 1904 Mr. Hatch was united in marriage to Miss Mary H. Crane, by whom he has three children, Dorothy, Lawrence and Gwendolyn. By his ballot Mr. Hatch supports the men and measures of the republican party and his fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, have called upon him to serve on the town council, where he is now a member of the committee on assessments. In his fraternal relations he is connected with the Knights of Pythias lodge and also the Sons of Veterans at Central City.

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### JOHN H. DIGNAN

John H. Dignan, passenger conductor on the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, was born on the 10th of September, 1863, in De Witt, Iowa, and is a son of John and Mary (McLarnan) Dignan. The father was a mechanic and was born in County Dublin, Ireland, where he resided until he came to America in 1844, first settling in New York. Later he removed to Altoona, Pennsylvania, and was married at Johnstown, that state, after which he made his way to the middle west, establishing his home at Ottawa, Illinois. Later he removed to Rock Island and subsequently to De Witt, Iowa, where he followed his trade up to the time of his retirement from active business life. He was a son of James Dignan, who never left his native land but always remained a resident of Ireland. The grandmother was one hundred and nineteen years of age when she passed away in Ireland.

John H. Dignan acquired his early education in the schools of De Witt and afterward turned his attention to railroading in 1877. He was first employed as a brakeman on a mixed train and after a short period spent in that position was transferred to the main line. After the Milwaukee Railroad Company purchased the road Mr. Dignan continued in their employ and in 1880 was promoted to conductor on a freight train and later on a passenger train. He has now been passenger conductor for ten years and is a popular employe of the road, always courteous and considerate of his patrons and at the same time loyal and faithful to the interests of the company which he represents.

On the 22d of January, 1895, Mr. Dignan was married to Miss Grace Kimball, a daughter of Benjamin C. and Julia (Bennett) Kimball. Her father came from Dayton, Ohio, to Iowa. He was a carpenter by trade and at the time of the discovery of gold in California joined the stampede of gold seekers and crossed the plains to the Pacific coast. After his return he again located in Dayton and subsequently came to this state. He lived for a time in Toronto, Iowa, but afterward went to Loudon, Iowa, and later removed to Oxford. In the vicinity of that town he purchased land and became the owner of three large farms, two of which are yet in possession of the family. After devoting his attention many years to carpentering and to agricultural pursuits, he retired from active business life and enjoyed a well earned rest, the rental of his farms furnishing him a substantial income. After his retirement he removed to Oxford but later came to





Marion, where his death occurred December 7, 1907, and where his widow still makes her home. His brother Jerome Kimball was a soldier of the Civil war, and his wife had three brothers in the service, these being Edward and Edeson Bennett, twins, and Charles Bennett, who was incarcerated in Libby prison for one year and for one year on Governors Island. He was then released and returned home as the war had ended. Edward died at Vicksburg and was buried on the battlefield, and Edeson died soon after his return home.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Dignan were born three children: June, deceased; Grace, who is attending school; and John Ford, who has also passed away. Mr. Dignan is a member of the Order of Railroad Conductors and is one of the popular trainmen on the Milwaukee & St. Paul, as well as one of the most trusted employes of the road, his long connection therewith standing in unmistakable evidence of his fidelity and his ability.

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### GEORGE L. JORDAN

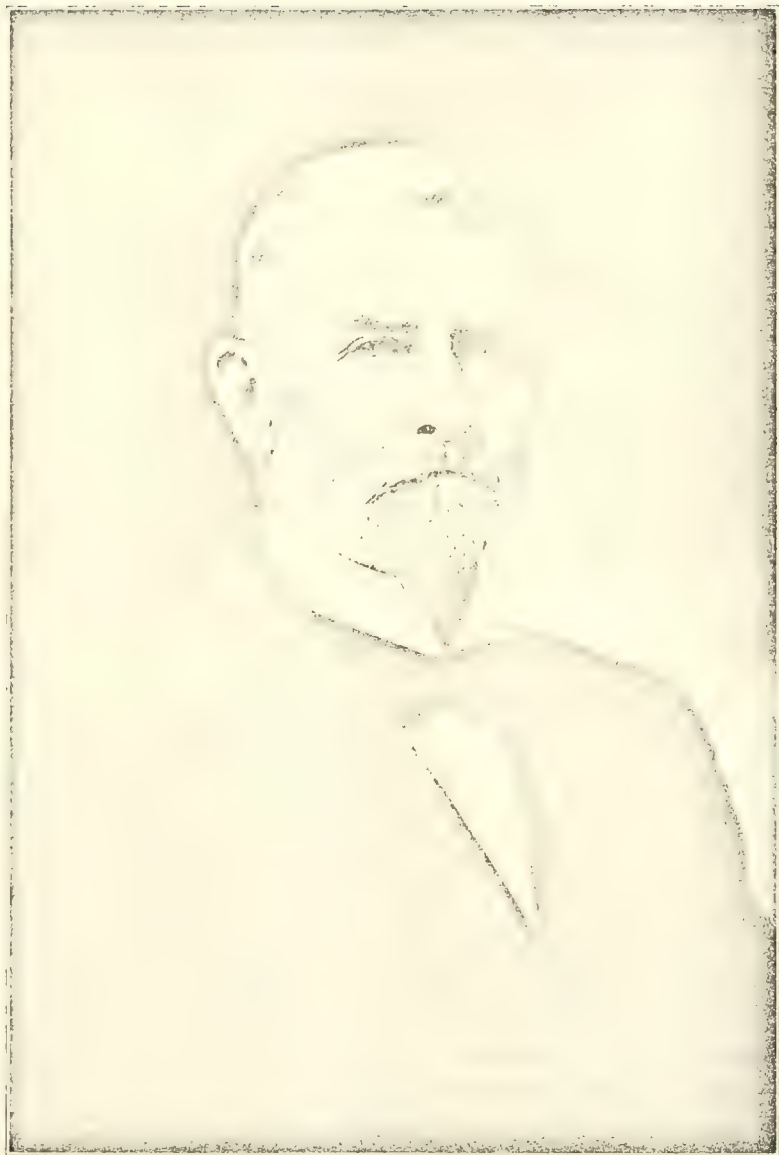
The name of Jordan is inseparably interwoven with the development of this part of the state and George L. Jordan from his boyhood to the present time has been numbered among the representative and reliable citizens. He is now engaged in the stock business in Springville, where he has made his home for some time. His birthplace was in Maine township and his natal day was July 14, 1846. He is, therefore, one of the oldest native residents of the county and is a representative of an honored pioneer family.

His parents were L. D. and Nancy (McKeney) Jordan, both natives of Maine. On coming west in 1840, they located in Linn county, Iowa, and entered land in Maine township, upon which the father erected a log cabin, covered with a clap-board roof, weighted down with poles, and having a puncheon floor. To the improvement and cultivation of his land he devoted his energies for many years and continued to reside upon the farm until called to his final rest in 1892. His wife survived him for some years and died in 1906 at the age of eighty years. Unto this worthy couple were born six children, of whom five are still living, our subject being the second in order of birth.

George L. Jordan is indebted to the public schools of this county for his early educational privileges, and under the direction of his father he early acquired an excellent knowledge of agricultural pursuits, remaining with his parents until he was married, on the 2d of July, 1865. He then rented the old homestead, which he operated for four years, and at the end of that time went to California, where the following year was passed. On his return to Linn county, he purchased a ditching machine, which he operated for two years, and then embarked in the meat business in Waubeek, carrying on business there for six years. At the end of that period he disposed of his business and removed to Springville, where he opened a meat market and continued in the same line of business for fifteen years, at the same time buying and selling stock. Since then he has been engaged in the latter business exclusively and is today the largest hog buyer in the county, averaging four carloads a week, which he ships to the city markets. He is a wide-awake, energetic business man and the success that he has achieved in life is due entirely to his own unaided efforts.

On the 2d of July, 1865, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Jordan and Miss Emily Gillilan, who was also born in Linn county in 1849, her parents being George and Frances Gillilan, the former now deceased but the latter living in Springville. Mrs. Jordan was their only child and by her marriage she became the mother of five children, namely: Clyde; Dwight, now a resident of California;





GEORGE L. JORDAN



G. K., of Oklahoma; F. S., who is in business with his father; and Cleo, who died November 5, 1881.

The democratic party has always found in Mr. Jordan a staunch supporter of its principles, but he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. He is an honored member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he has taken all of the degrees, and has filled all of the chairs in the local lodge. Both he and his wife are faithful members of the Presbyterian church and have a wide circle of friends and acquaintances in their native county.

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### COLONEL PETER II. FISHELL

Colonel Peter II. Fishell, who is now living retired at No. 361 Seventh avenue in Marion, was for many years actively and successfully identified with agricultural interests in Linn county. His birth occurred in Hancock county, Ohio, his parents being Michael and Anna (Hummon) Fishell, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. The father, who was born in 1810, took up his abode in Hancock county, Ohio, in 1828 and was married in Crawford county, that state, on the 6th of September, 1832. He and his wife resided on a farm in Hancock county, Ohio, until 1875, when they sold the property and removed to McComb, Ohio, where they spent the remainder of their lives in honorable retirement. Michael Fishell passed away in 1884, having for a number of years survived his wife, who was called to her final rest on the 28th of July, 1881. Their children were nine in number, namely: John C., Mary and James, all of whom are deceased; Peter II., of this review; Katherine, the wife of John Besket, of Illinois; Hattie, who is the wife of A. McClintock and resides in Ohio; Caroline, living in Ohio; William, who has also passed away; and David, who makes his home in Missouri.

Peter H. Fishell supplemented his preliminary education by a high school course and after completing his studies followed the profession of teaching to some extent. He remained under the parental roof until June, 1862, when, his patriotic spirit being aroused by the continued attempt of the south to overthrow the Union, he enlisted for service as a member of Company G, Eighty-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Samuel Huber and Colonel H. B. Banning. The regiment was first ordered to Baltimore, Maryland, the last of June and was attached to General Wool's division of the Army of the Potomac for a short time, after which McClellan took command. They arrived at Harper's Ferry July 8, and Mr. Fishell participated in the battle at that place and in September, 1862, was one of the twelve thousand prisoners captured by Stonewall Jackson. He was exchanged three days later and discharged as a paroled prisoner, returning home in October, 1862. He was elected captain of Company A, Second Regiment Ohio State Militia and promoted to the rank of colonel in the fall of 1863. He had command of the regiment during the state drill at Toledo under General Hill.

After returning home Colonel Fishell worked with his father for about two years or until the time of his marriage. Shortly afterward he came to Linn county, Iowa, purchasing and locating on a farm of one hundred and ten acres which he operated for a year and then sold. He next bought and cultivated a quarter section of land in this county but disposed of the property at the end of two years and took up his abode in Marion, where he resided for three years. On the expiration of that period he purchased a farm of one hundred and forty acres near Marion and continuously devoted his time and energies to its operation for thirty-five years. He then leased the property and has since lived retired in Marion, enjoying in well earned ease the fruits of his former toil. The farm is





still in his possession and he also owns good property in Marion, where he is recognized as a prosperous and respected citizen.

On the 2d of October, 1863, Colonel Fishell was united in marriage to Miss Lucinda Groves, a daughter of Thomas and Adaline (Choat) Groves, who were natives of Virginia and Vermont respectively. Mr. Groves passed away in 1880, having for five years survived his wife, whose demise occurred on the 1st of December, 1875. They had a family of eleven children, as follows: Minerva and Savadra, both of whom are deceased; Alpha; Jane and Louis, who have likewise passed away; Eliza; John; Mrs. Fishell and Squire, twins; Philena, deceased; and Philanda, a twin sister of Philena. Mr. and Mrs. Fishell are the parents of six children, namely: Flora F., the wife of Allen Miles, of Linn county; Squire H., who is married and resides in Johnson county, Kansas; I. Laverna, who was formerly engaged in teaching and is now the wife of John Helbig, of this county; Mabel E., the wife of John Good, of Waterloo, Iowa; Minerva Ann, who wedded C. Wilson and makes her home in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; and Emma I., the wife of Albert Zachary, of Marion, Iowa.

Colonel Fishell gives his political support to the republican party but has never sought or desired office, having always preferred to concentrate his energies upon his private interests. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons, belonging to lodge No. 6 at Marion. He is also a member of the Grand Army post and in religious faith is a Methodist. During the years of his residence in Linn county, covering more than four decades, he has so lived as to enjoy the unqualified confidence, good will and esteem of those with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact.

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#### GEORGE P. CARPENTER, M. D.

The state of Iowa, with its pulsing industrial activities and rapid development has attracted within its confines men of marked ability and high character in the various professional lines and in this way progress has been conserved and social stability fostered. Dr. George P. Carpenter, whose name initiates this review, has gained recognition as one of the able and successful physicians of the state and by his labors, his high professional attainments and his sterling characteristics has justified the respect and confidence in which he is held by the medical fraternity and the local public. Although yet a man in the prime of life, he is the oldest physician in years of continuous connection with the profession in this city. He was born in Lancaster, Ohio, September 21, 1846, his parents being Dr. Paul and Mary (Fetters) Carpenter. The family is of Holland origin, but was founded in America during the colonial epoch of our history and was represented in the Revolutionary war and again in the war of 1812. The Fetters family is of German descent and was established in Ohio during the pioneer history of that state.

Dr. Paul Carpenter was a native of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and in early manhood took up the study of law under the direction of James Buchanan, afterward president of the United States, but he regarded the profession as uncongenial and ran away from home, taking up his abode in Lancaster, Ohio, where he began the study of medicine. In time he came to be recognized as one of the distinguished physicians and surgeons in his part of the state, practicing with marked success in Lancaster until his death, which occurred in 1880, when he had reached the age of seventy years. He always kept abreast with the progress of the profession and was most conscientious in the performance of his duties. His political views were in accord with the principles of the republican party, but he would accept no office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his profes-



sional duties, his Masonic work and his efforts for the betterment of the community along other lines. He ranked high in Masonry and was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, as was also the mother of our subject, who died in Lancaster, Ohio, at the age of thirty-five years. Dr. Carpenter is the only survivor in their family of five children and is second in order of birth. For his first wife the father married Miss Mary Cannon and their surviving children are Henry W., a physician of Lancaster, Ohio, and Mary Ellen, the wife of W. J. Carty of Columbus, Ohio. Dr. Carpenter then married Mary Feters and of this union our subject is the second child in order of birth.

An apt student, Dr. George P. Carpenter readily mastered the branches of learning taught in the public schools of Lancaster and completed the high school course when but fifteen years of age. For further study he entered the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio, and completed a literary course by graduation in 1865. Whether environment, inherited tendency or deliberate choice have most to do in shaping his later career it is impossible to determine, but the study of medicine seemed to prove attractive to him and he began reading under the direction of his father, while later he benefited by instruction in the Ohio Medical College of Cincinnati, from which he was graduated in March, 1868, at the age of twenty-two years. While yet a student he spent one year in an army hospital with his brother, Dr. H. W. Carpenter, who was an army surgeon. There were between twelve and eighteen hundred patients in the hospital the entire time and the practical experience which he thus gained of medicine and surgery proved of inestimable benefit to him.

Immediately after his graduation Dr. Carpenter located for the private practice of medicine in Cedar Rapids, remaining continuously a resident of this city since the 4th of April, 1868. He found here a population of about three thousand and has, therefore, witnessed almost its entire growth and development, and no man feels greater pride in what has been accomplished or has given his aid and influence in more substantial manner toward furthering its upbuilding. Two years after his arrival here he became a partner of Dr. E. L. Mansfield and they were together for five years. Otherwise, Dr. Carpenter has always been alone and, while he has usually given his attention to general practice, he has also specialized to a great extent in surgery and has successfully performed many notable operations. His practice from the beginning has been large and of an important character and he has ever been an industrious and ambitious student, whose reading and research have constantly augmented his ability and promoted his efficiency.

Dr. Carpenter has been married twice. On the 1st of July, 1869, in Delaware, Ohio, he wedded Miss Delia Fant, a native of that state and a daughter of the Rev. S. Fant, a Methodist Episcopal minister, who was one of the pioneer preachers of that section. Dr. and Mrs. Carpenter became the parents of two daughters and two sons: Laura, now the wife of A. H. Smith of Los Angeles, California; Alice, who married Lieutenant A. S. Smith of the United States Navy and died May 1, 1904; Paul F. and George B., both residents of Los Angeles. The wife and mother passed away March 31, 1897, and was laid to rest in Oak Hill cemetery of Cedar Rapids. On the 14th of July, 1909, Dr. Carpenter was again married, his second union being with Belle Hawthorne Dusill of Cedar Rapids. His home contains a fine and most interesting collection of relics and curios, gathered from all parts of the world, for he has traveled extensively, gaining thereby that broad culture and experience which only travel can bring. He has long been one of the prominent and helpful members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he served as steward and trustee for thirty years.

His political views accord with the principles of the republican party and his fraternal relations are with Mount Hermon Lodge, No. 263, F. & A. M.; and Trowel Chapter, No. 49, R. A. M. He has always regarded the practice of medi-





cine and surgery, however, as his chief interest, has served as medical examiner for the Northwestern Life Insurance Company of Milwaukee and many other companies and has been a member of the staff of St. Luke's Hospital since its founding. He holds membership in the Cedar Rapids Medical Society, the Iowa Union Medical Society, the Iowa State Medical Society, the Tri-State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. He has kept in touch with the work done by the profession whereby the interests of humanity have been advanced, and is in thorough sympathy with the movement for general education concerning the laws of health and the prevention of disease. He holds to high standards in practice and his expressions concerning brother practitioners are friendly and indulgent. He is widely recognized as a man of the highest and purest character and there is constant demand for his services both professionally and socially.

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### MARSHALL OXLEY

Marshall Oxley, a prominent and prosperous agriculturist of Linn county, has spent his entire life within its borders and is now the oldest settler in the community where he makes his home. His birth occurred in Marion township on the 18th of February, 1853, his parents being John S. and Jane (Halley) Oxley, who were born in Kentucky a century ago. Clair Oxley, the great-grandfather of our subject, came to this country from England in colonial times and lived to attain the remarkable age of one hundred years. His remains were interred in Rush county, Indiana. Everett Oxley, the grandfather of Marshall Oxley, passed away near Louisville, Kentucky, when forty-five years of age, his death being occasioned by an accident. While hewing timbers for a cabin the broad ax which he was using struck his knee and inflicted a wound which proved fatal. In 1824 the Oxley family left Kentucky and took up their abode near Crawfordsville, Indiana, where the parents of our subject celebrated their marriage September 1, 1831. The year 1840 witnessed their removal to Linn county, Iowa, the date of their arrival being October 18. John S. Oxley built the first grist mill in this county in 1842-3 and the third sawmill. He devoted his attention principally, however, to general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career and at one time was personally acquainted with every white man in the county.

Marshall Oxley attended the district schools during the winter months but the methods of instruction at that early period were quite crude as compared with the educational advantages afforded to the youth of today, and when a pupil had mastered the three R's his schooling was considered ended. He early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist and the work of the fields has claimed his attention throughout his entire business career. The farm on which his birth occurred has remained his home to the present time and he now enjoys the distinction of being the oldest settler in the community. In connection with the tilling of the soil he has been extensively engaged in the raising of stock and also deals in notes and bank and commercial paper. The success which has attended his efforts is indicated by the fact that he is now the largest individual tax payer in Marion township.

On the 4th of September, 1878, Mr. Oxley was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary M. Ellison, whose natal day was March 18, 1859. The ceremony took place at the home of the bride three miles north of Mount Vernon. Mr. and Mrs. Oxley now have three children, namely: Clarence R., who was born February 17, 1880, and now resides in Marion; Ralph W., born June 28, 1889, who is at home; and Bertha, whose birth occurred February 12, 1895, and who is also





under the parental roof. Clarence R. Oxley was united in marriage to Miss Lizzie B. Groll on the 7th day of May, 1902, and they now have two children: Helen, who was born July 5, 1906; and Marshall, Jr., who first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 10th of October, 1908.

For the past twenty-eight years Mr. Oxley has been a contributing member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and, in accordance with the teachings of that order, has endeavored to "help his fellow man in time of need." It has ever been his desire to exemplify that well known motto of a celebrated man: "The world is my country and to do good my religion." Mr. Oxley has never been an aspirant for public office, having, as he expresses it, been "more content in endeavoring to make two blades of grass grow where but one grew before." His political views are epitomized in the words, "equal rights for all and special privileges to none." Having been a resident of Linn county for the past fifty-seven years, he is largely familiar with its annals from pioneer times down to the present and can relate many interesting anecdotes of the early days. He can distinctly remember several incidents in connection with the marshalling of troops for the Civil war. He was a chum of Perry Byam, the youngest soldier who enlisted in the war, the records at Washington acknowledging him as the youngest, for he was only about nine years of age. He witnessed the building of the first railroad in Linn county and was present at the barbecue in Cedar Rapids when the first railroad entered that city. It is to such men as Mr. Oxley that this county owes its splendid development, and the wonderful transformation that has taken place in this part of the state has been a source of much gratification to him. He has traveled extensively in the United States and Canada, has crossed the great corn belt of the Mississippi valley and the wheat fields of the Dakotas and has gazed with wonder and admiration on the sun-kissed mountains of the west; yet in all sincerity he can say:

"You may roam this wide world over;  
You may boast where you have been;  
But the place to rear your babies  
Is in the good old county of Linn."

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### WILLIAM JOSEPH GREENE

William Joseph Greene, whose ability in the field of civil engineering is now manifest in his management of the power plant of the Cedar Rapids & Iowa City Railway & Light Company, was born in Chicago, Illinois, on the 28th of November, 1861. He is a son of Judge George Greene, of whom extended mention is made elsewhere in this volume. He was only about two years of age when his parents removed to Cedar Rapids so that his preliminary education was acquired in the public schools of this city. Later he continued his studies in Coe College and afterward went to Faribault, Minnesota, where he entered the Shattuck school, from which he was graduated with the class of 1881. In further pursuance of his education he matriculated in Princeton College of New Jersey and was graduated therefrom with the Civil Engineering degree in the spring of 1885.

Returning to Cedar Rapids Mr. Greene found employment with the Cedar Rapids Electric Light & Power Company and was promoted through intermediate positions, in recognition of his ability, to the position of manager, in which capacity he was serving at the time the Cedar Rapids Electric Light & Power Company was merged into the Cedar Rapids & Iowa City Railway & Light Company. He remained with the latter corporation in charge of the power plant and such is his present connection with the business interests of



the city. His capability is recognized by all whose knowledge gives them right to judge of such work.

In 1896 Mr. Greene was married to Miss Mae Whittam, of Cedar Rapids, a daughter of Judge Isaac N. and Relief (Ayers) Whittam, Judge Whittam being one of the early settlers of this city and one of its best known barristers. He was the last mayor of the old town and the first mayor of the new city. Mr. and Mrs. Greene have given their only child the name of Robert Whittam Greene.

Fraternally Mr. Greene is connected with Crescent Lodge, No. 25, A. F. & A. M.; Trowel Chapter, No. 49, A. M.; Apollo Commandery, No. 26, K. T.; and El Kahir Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., while socially he is a member of the Princeton and University Clubs of Cedar Rapids. He likewise belongs to Grace Episcopal church. While a representative of one of the prominent families of this city, it is his personal worth that has gained him the high regard in which he is entertained by his fellow townsmen.

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### RANSOM W. TRUMBULL

Ransom W. Trumbull, who has resided within the borders of Linn county for a third of a century, is well known as one of its representative and successful agriculturists, owning and operating a fine farm of two hundred acres in Jackson township. His birth occurred in Byron, Ogle county, Illinois, on the 24th of June, 1862, his parents being Spencer and Martha (Phillips) Trumbull, both of whom were natives of New York. When yet a girl the mother accompanied her parents on their westward removal to Wisconsin, where she met and wedded Spencer Trumbull while the latter was on a western trip. Following their marriage they resided in Ogle county, Illinois, for several years and then went to St. Clair county, Missouri, where Spencer Trumbull passed away on the 28th of October, 1873.

Ransom W. Trumbull, who was but ten years of age at the time of his father's demise, then went to Nebraska with his mother and there remained for two years. Subsequently he spent three years in Wisconsin, residing with a family in whose home his mother had lived for some time as a girl. In December, 1876, he came west to Linn county, Iowa, and secured employment as a farm hand, being thus busily engaged until 1885. In that year he bought sixty acres of his present home farm in Jackson township and the following year added to his land holdings by an additional purchase of twenty acres adjoining. Following his marriage, which was celebrated in 1891, he extended the boundaries of his farm and now owns two hundred acres of rich and productive land, which returns to him a gratifying annual income. A careful husbandman, industrious and ambitious to obtain the best results possible for his investment of time and labor, he has risen to an enviable position among the agriculturists here.

On the 28th of September, 1891, Mr. Trumbull was united in marriage to Miss Nellie Doane, of Jackson township, Linn county. Her parents, Levi and Hannah (Rice) Doane, who were natives of New York and Albion, Michigan, respectively, celebrated their marriage in Illinois. Early in the '60s they removed westward to Iowa, residing in Clinton county for two years, on the expiration of which period they came to Linn county and have since made their home in Jackson township. Levi Doane is a carpenter by trade and still works at that occupation, though he has now attained the ripe old age of seventy-eight. He is remarkably well preserved for a man of his years, retaining his faculties largely unimpaired. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Trumbull have been born eight children, namely: Walter Spencer;





R. W. TRUMBULL





Hazel May; Rollo James; Dewey Doane; Lora Lee and Loretta Hannah, twins; Charlotte Martha; and Clarissa Ethel. All are still attending school.

In politics Mr. Trumbull is a staunch republican and he has effectively furthered the cause of education during his long period of service as a member of the school board. Fraternally he is identified with the Modern Brotherhood of America. His life, lived in accordance with high principles and spent in useful endeavor, has been of valuable service to the community and proves him deserving of the respect he enjoys.

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### DEAN HAMLINE H. FREER

Dean Hamline H. Freer, born September 9, 1845, at Ellsworth, Trumbull county, Ohio, is a son of Rev. S. C. and Louisa H. Freer. The only other child in the family was M. Louise (Freer) Marine, who died in March, 1903. The son of a Methodist preacher, he lived at Le Claire, Camanche, Tipton, Independence and Vinton, Iowa, during the years of his father's pastorate at those places, and also at Vinton during the service of his father as presiding elder of the Vinton district. The subject of our sketch was married in 1871 at Maquoketa to Miss Mary L. Markle. To this union were born three daughters, all of whom are living and are graduates of Cornell College, the scene of Dean Freer's life's labors. He left, with the family of his parents, the native country of Ohio in 1855, moving to Illinois and the following year to Iowa.

A man possessing the qualities with which nature endowed, Dean H. H. Freer seeks activity in usefulness as naturally as a growing plant seeks light and air. A wholesome ambition, a rare power of making friends and keeping them, a belief that a man could not do nobler work than to inspire young manhood and womanhood with high ideals were the elements in his character that drew him irresistibly into his life's work. The class of 1869 was noteworthy. It was destined to furnish to Cornell College two of its chief directors and advisers, President Harlan and Dean Freer. Mr. Freer was called at once to be city superintendent of schools at Chariton, Iowa. His native ability and success led his alma mater to call him, at the end of his first year, to a place in the faculty of her academy. At the end of two years he was made principal of the academy and of the normal department. After some fifteen years of conspicuous success there he was promoted to be the professor of the science and art of teaching and political economy in the college, and later became professor of political economy and sociology and dean of the faculty, which chair and office he now administers. Professor Freer's popularity as a teacher and the length of his service has brought him into classroom contact with a larger number of students than has sat under the instruction of any other member of the faculty; and there are few, if any, members of the alumni whom he does not know personally. He has, too, always been a patient and helpful counselor, to whom are indebted not only scores of students but also his fellow associates and the institution. The indispensable character of Professor Freer's services in the faculty was indicated while he was on leave of absence for university study. Then the prevalent feeling found expression in the words: "How can we get along without Professor Freer?" His progressiveness and foresight as a teacher are well shown in the organization by him as early as 1879 of courses in the college in the theory and practice of teaching, thus placing Cornell College among the originators of that training now regarded as indispensable for teachers. Nor was he content to keep abreast of his science by reading merely, but spent the year 1892-93 at the University of Chicago, where he was awarded the senior



fellowship in political economy; and again in 1901 he attended the summer school of Cornell University.

Besides the value of his services at home Professor Freer has always been an able representative of the institution in educational meetings and among professional and business men. A part of his work is attended with some recognition, but there is practically none for that large amount of inevitably fruitless travel and soliciting for funds. Professor Freer's skill in securing endowment, which destines him to give much time to it, was well shown in the twentieth century thank offering campaign, when four hundred and fifty thousand dollars were secured for endowment and buildings almost entirely through the efforts of President King and himself, giving Cornell College fourth place among Methodist institutions for success in that movement. His educational service and standing in the state outside the college is indicated by his record as director and instructor in normal institutes and his prominence in educational meetings. Since 1869 he has been a member of the Iowa State Teachers Association, in which, in addition to other offices, he has long served on the educational council, was president of the general association in 1891 and of the college section in 1898. His two inaugural addresses are published in the records of the association and one of them also in separate form. The state also honored him by appointment to the state board of educational examiners, on which he served from 1898 until 1902. But Professor Freer's influence in educational circles was not to be confined to the state. Since 1884 he has been a member of the National Educational Association and in 1887 he held the office of secretary of the college and university section of the association when its meeting was held in Chicago. Among scholars he has been recognized by the scientific societies in his field, being chosen for two terms member of the council of the American Economic Association, and having been a member of the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences since its founding.

Professor Freer believes in his work and puts his conscience into every recitation. Intellectually honest and fearless, he hates sham in education, in society, in politics. Modest and faithful, he has the courage of his convictions and whether those who are associated with him believe with him or not, they never mistake his purpose or misunderstand his meaning. He goes to the heart of his subject with the directness of a spear thrust and lays bare its secret in a style that is as clear as a sunbeam. His idea of his profession is lofty and inspiring. He cares vastly more for the quality of his work than for the reward. He scorns to do less than his best. It is not by his public work alone that he or anyone should be estimated. The judgment of earth and heaven will finally be rendered according to what we are in our personal character and in our relationships with our fellowmen. He is a peerless friend. It is only the great-hearted who can be true friends; the mean, the cowardly, can never know what true friendship means. Blessed is the man who has the gift of making friends, for it is one of God's best gifts; it involves many things, but above all the power of going out of one's own self and seeing and appreciating whatever is noble and loving in another.

Nor does Professor Freer belong to the fossil type of college professors. He has always been not merely an interested but an active citizen, standing for honest government and pure politics in municipal, state and national affairs. In 1897 he was sent by his county as a delegate to the state convention which nominated Leslie M. Shaw for governor; in 1896, during the national sound money campaign, he contributed much in this part of the state by his platform addresses. Besides his activity in the direction of good government he has always been active and effective in the work of the church. His social qualities make him a most desirable personage in any gathering. Especially enjoyable have been his witty speeches of the after-dinner type. As a citizen he is one of





those sterling, sturdy open-hearted and open-handed men who is ever ready to do fully his share and more in the upbuilding of the best interests of society and in contributing to every enterprise designed to promote the material, moral, religious or charitable interests of the community. He is a broad, liberal-minded man, a noble, self-sacrificing spirit, a lovely character in all that goes to make the man among men. He is a peculiarly modest and unselfish man who never seeks public notice nor favor, but unassumingly and unselfishly discharges every duty imposed upon a Christian gentleman and loyal citizen. Such a character increases our faith in humanity and exhibits much of the spirit and possibilities of living. When a man of such varied gifts and strong sense of duty is endowed with a generous disposition, the demands upon his time and energy must be attended by much self-sacrifice. So it has been with the subject of this sketch. It is a life devoted first, to the interests of the college and the general welfare, and last, to self.

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### DANIEL L. COQUILLETTE

Daniel L. Coquillette is the owner of one of the many fine farms which make Linn county famous as an agricultural center, his stock and general farming having caused his one hundred and twenty-eight acre farm to rival in productiveness those of any other district. Not alone has he achieved success in his own affairs but he has promoted public interests, his fellow citizens electing him to the office of justice of the peace and as a member of the township school board.

Mr. Coquillette was born March 16, 1859, in McHenry county, Illinois, where his parents, Abraham and Sarah (LaSalle) Coquillette, natives of New York, lived for several years prior to coming to Iowa in 1870. When Abraham Coquillette came to this state he chose Linn county as his future home, first purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land in Jackson township. Here he lived and worked, improving the place to a great extent and making it one of the finest farms to be found for miles around. Finally, in 1895, he decided to retire from active labor, so retired to Coggon, Iowa, where he lived until his death, which occurred March 9, 1907. His wife had preceded him, having answered the call of the grim reaper May 29, 1900.

Daniel L. Coquillette remained with his parents upon their farm assisting them in the work of tilling the soil and caring for the stock until he had attained the age of twenty-three years. At that age he was married, his wife being Miss Carrie E. Whitney, and the date of their marriage November 23, 1882. Mrs. Coquillette was the daughter of Joseph and Dorothy Whitney, natives of Ohio and New York, respectively, who came to Linn county in 1855, and the father operated a farm and a mill until his death, which occurred in October, 1906. Mrs. Whitney is yet living, making her home with her daughter Mrs. Coquillette. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Daniel L. Coquillette there have been born four children, namely: Edith M., who is married and is now living in Spring Grove township; St. Elmo M., twenty years old, now employed in the Merchants National Bank of Cedar Rapids; Leon W., aged fifteen years, living at home; and Lelia C., who is deceased, her death having occurred October 23, 1888.

At the time of Mr. Coquillette's marriage he and his wife went to house-keeping upon an eighty-acre farm which they rented in Boulder township. For seven years they farmed that place, meeting with fair success. Then they bought eighty acres in Spring Grove township and made that place their home for eleven years. Disposing of it at a splendid profit, Mr. Coquillette bought the one hundred and twenty-eight acres which at present constitutes their homestead and has lived upon this place ever since. He has improved both land and buildings





until it is a very attractive and convenient place for a home and is very productive. Among the improvements made are a fine new forty-four by sixty foot barn; a fifty-foot steel-tower wind-mill and an addition to the already substantial and attractive residence, together with minor improvements such as cattle and feed and grain sheds as were required.

Politically Mr. Coquillet is rated as a progressive republican. He has held the office of justice of the peace in Spring Grove township for four years and at present is the president of the school board of the township. He takes an active interest in local affairs but gives much of his time to his farm, keeping ten head of horses, twenty-five head of cattle, and each season he raises some fifty head of hogs. Fraternally he is identified with the Masonic fraternity, being a Master Mason in Mecca Lodge, No. 523, of Coggon, Iowa.

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### EDWARD LESINGER

Edward Lesinger, who since 1905 has been engaged in the undertaking business in Cedar Rapids, his native city, was born June 14, 1880. He is a son of Wencil and Anna Rose Lesinger, both of whom were natives of Bohemia, whence they came to America in early life. They are residents of Cedar Rapids and here the father has devoted his life to tailoring, having learned the trade in early manhood.

Edward Lesinger has spent his entire life in this city and at the usual age entered the public schools, passing through consecutive grades he has mastered the branches of learning taught. He is yet a young man and has made a creditable business record for one of his years. In 1905 he established an undertaking parlor which he is still conducting. In the five years which have since elapsed he has received a good patronage and has built up a substantial trade.

On the 23d of January, 1906, Mr. Lesinger was married to Miss Elsie Marshall, who was born in Viola, Iowa. They became parents of two children: Leo, now deceased, and Bernice, who is the life of the household. In his political views Mr. Lesinger is a stalwart democrat, but does not seek nor desire office. He belongs to the Z. B. & C. J. Lodge, No. 46, of Cedar Rapids. He has made a wide acquaintance in his native city and enjoys the high regard of many stanch friends who have known him from his boyhood to the present time.

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### CURTIS J. BICKEL

Although Curtis J. Bickel is a young man, he has already made for himself a substantial place among the farmers of Buffalo township and in that section of Linn county the name is not an unfamiliar one in agricultural circles, for his father, Isaac Bickel, came from his native state — Ohio — to Linn county at an early date and established his home on a farm in Buffalo township. He wedded Miss Luanna Schoonover, who was born in Ohio in 1849. Following his marriage Mr. Bickel brought his bride to his home in Buffalo township and as the years passed four children were added to the household. Here they labored together for many years, or until the death of Mr. Bickel, which occurred in December, 1886, thus leaving to his widow the management of the farm and the rearing of their children. For many years thereafter she continued to make her home on the farm in Buffalo township but now resides in Brown township, at the age of sixty-one years.





MR. AND MRS. C. J. BICKEL



Curtis J. Bickel was born on the home farm in Buffalo township, January 29, 1884, and was a little lad of three years when he lost his father. He was then reared by his mother, being sent to the district schools at the usual age. As his years and strength increased he more and more largely assisted in the work of the fields and upon attaining his majority assumed entire management of the place, now owning eighty acres of the homestead. He is most enterprising in his work and is numbered among the successful farmers of this section of Linn county.

It was on the 22d of February, 1905, that Mr. Bickel was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Edna F. Seism, whose parents were Chauncey E. and Flora (Hiscock) Seism. The father was born in New York, while the mother was a native of Michigan. They located in Linn county in early times but after spending a few years here took up their abode in Dubuque, this state. However, they eventually returned to Linn county, residing here until the mother's demise, which occurred May 25, 1893. The father then removed to Ottumwa, Iowa, and was again married, making that city his home until his death, which occurred January 13, 1902. His family numbered seven children.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Bickel has been blessed with an interesting little daughter and son, Mildred L. and Roy C. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically Mr. Bickel is a republican but aside from acting as treasurer of the school board for five years has filled no public office. He has found scope for his activity within the bounds of his native township and through the cultivation of its rich soil is deriving a good annual income.

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### CHARLES KROUSE

Charles Krouse, a prosperous and enterprising agriculturist of Monroe township, is now the owner of four hundred and sixty-two and a half acres of rich and productive land, in the cultivation of which he has met with excellent success. He is numbered among the worthy native sons of Linn county, his birth having occurred in Monroe township on the 15th of September, 1861. His parents, Mathias and Sophia (Ehda) Krouse, both of whom are natives of Germany, crossed the Atlantic to the United States in 1854 and purchased land in this county. The father, who devoted his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career, is now living retired in Toddville and has attained the venerable age of eighty-nine years. His wife is also yet living at the age of eighty-seven years and they are both well known and highly esteemed throughout the community where they have so long resided. They became the parents of eight children, five of whom still survive.

Charles Krouse attended the common schools in pursuit of an education and continued to assist his father in the work of the home farm until he was married at the age of thirty-three years. He then bought the homestead property from his father and later extended the boundaries of the farm by additional purchase until it now embraces four hundred and sixty-two and a half acres. In addition to raising the cereals best adapted to soil and climate he makes a specialty of handling and feeding stock, both branches of his business proving profitable. Everything about his place is indicative of the supervision of a practical and progressive owner and he is widely recognized as one of the substantial and representative citizens of the community.

As a companion and helpmate on the journey of life Mr. Krouse chose Miss Elsie Mentzer, who was born in Monroe township, this county, May 28, 1871. Her parents, James and May (Senger) Mentzer, who came to Linn county at an early day, are still living in Monroe township. Mrs. Krouse taught school for seven years prior to her marriage, proving a successful and capable educator.





Mr. Krouse is a staunch advocate of the principles of the republican party, but has never sought nor desired office for himself, preferring to concentrate his attention upon his business affairs. Having spent their entire lives in Linn county, both he and his wife are widely and favorably known within its borders and the hospitality of the best homes is cordially extended them.

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#### WILLIAM L. KEE

William L. Kee is a well known and worthy representative of farming interests in Spring Grove township, now busily engaged in the cultivation and improvement of eighty acres of land. He is a native son of Iowa, born in Marion in September, 1869. His parents, Lindsay M. and Mahala (Hopson) Kee, were natives of Virginia and Illinois respectively.

William L. Kee spent the period of his boyhood and early youth in the home of his parents, entering the business world as a farm hand and being thus engaged for seven years. On the expiration of that period he rented one hundred and twenty acres of land, which he operated for eight years. During that time he carefully saved his money, which he invested in eighty acres of land in Spring Grove township, on which he has since made his home. He raises the various cereals best adapted to soil and climate and in his work is meeting with gratifying success.

Mr. Kee was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Powers, a daughter of Edmond D. and Eliza J. (Riley) Powers, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of Iowa. Their union has been blessed with ten children: William Elbert, aged seventeen years; Harry I. and Mary A., aged respectively fifteen and thirteen years; Ruth M. and Ruby P., twins, who are eleven years of age; Ina M., Ella M., Edith V., Estella F. and J. Francis, aged respectively nine, seven, five, four and three years.

Mr. Kee gives his political allegiance to the republican party and for the past nine years has been either president or director of the school board. He holds membership with the Modern Woodmen at Alburnett, while his wife is identified with the Methodist Episcopal church. The prosperity which he now enjoys is well merited, for he has ever followed the most honorable business methods in his dealings with his fellowmen and therefore enjoys the high regard of all with whom he is brought in contact.

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#### THOMAS McNAMARA

The farm on which Thomas McNamara was born is also the scene of his activity at the present time, for since 1904 he has been in possession of two hundred and forty acres of the old homestead, located in Buffalo township. His parents, James and Ann (Maloney) McNamara, both natives of Ireland, in which country they were also married, came to America in 1855, settling first in New York city, and it was during their residence in the eastern metropolis that our subject was born, his natal day being February 28, 1857. It was a short time afterward that the parents decided to continue their journey to the west, Dubuque county, Iowa, being their destination. The father there engaged in construction work on the railroad which was being built through the state. He was later employed on the construction of the Midland Railroad on the line running from Davenport to Anamosa. Eventually he decided to engage in farming and to this end came to Buffalo township, Linn county, purchasing forty acres of land. As the years



passed he prospered and accumulated four hundred acres, which amount he owned at the time of his death in 1897. His wife was called to her final rest in 1904. They were members of the Catholic church.

Thomas McNamara remained under the parental roof until he attained his majority. He acquired his education in the common schools and after completing his studies assisted his father in the work of the home farm. At the age of twenty-one he was married, on the 22d of January, 1878, to Miss Elizabeth Brislawn, and a year later, in 1879, he removed to Lincoln county, Washington, entering a homestead and a timber claim of one hundred and sixty acres each. In time he sold that property and invested his money in two hundred and forty acres in the same county. After cultivating the land for some time he disposed of it and removing to Spokane county, that state, purchased three hundred and twenty acres, which he owned and operated until the spring of 1904, when he returned to his old home in Linn county, purchasing two hundred and forty acres of the homestead from the other heirs. He is now well situated in life, for his fields return golden harvests each year, and his place is one of the best improved in Buffalo township.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. McNamara have been born three sons: John J., a resident of Buffalo township; and Thomas F., and James M., who are at home and assist their father in his work. The parents are members of the Catholic church, while Mr. McNamara gives his political support to the democratic party. Although he spent many years on the Pacific coast, he has found no more pleasant place to live than Linn county, among the friends and acquaintances of his boyhood days, and no more productive land can be found anywhere than the soil of Iowa.

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#### G. A. BROOKS

G. A. Brooks, the proprietor of a recently established but successful drug business, was born in Buchanan county, Iowa, May 29, 1877, and is a son of George and Agnes (Shattuck) Brooks, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Michigan. They removed to Iowa at an early period in the development of this state and the father is now a resident of Independence but the mother passed away on the 11th of July, 1903. In their family were three children, all of whom are yet living.

G. A. Brooks spent the days of his boyhood in the usual manner of lads whose parents insist upon the acquirement of a public school education and who recognize the fact that labor and recreation must both constitute forces of development in the life of every normal boy. He continued at home until he reached his majority and after starting out in business life was employed for several years as a clerk in a drug store, all of this time being actuated by an ambition to one day become owner of a business. Accordingly his industry and careful expenditure at length brought to him a capital sufficient to enable him to engage in business on his own account and on the 1st of October, 1909, he opened a store at No. 117 F avenue in Cedar Rapids. He had supplemented his high school course by a pharmaceutical course in Des Moines, and practical experience had also well qualified him for the management of the business which is now claiming his attention. He has already built up a good trade and the indications are for continued success in the future. He has also been appointed postmaster of station No. 4 at his place of business.

Mr. Brooks was married in 1904 to Miss Dora Thompson, who was born in the state of Nebraska and is a daughter of Joseph and Susan (Kellar) Thompson. The parents of Mrs. Brooks are both deceased, the father passing away April 26, 1910, at Vinton, Iowa. Mrs. Brooks was one of three children and was





liberally educated, being afforded a college course, after which she was engaged in teaching school for ten years. She is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church which Mr. Brooks also attends. His political allegiance is given to the republican party but he has never been an office seeker. Fraternally he is connected with the Foresters of America, Cedar Court, No. 3, at Cedar Rapids, and also with Camp No. 145, Modern Woodmen of America. Undaunted enterprise, indefatigable energy and laudable ambition have constituted the salient forces in his success and the future is bright with promise for these qualities are ever effective forces in the attainment of prosperity.

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### REUBEN S. HORNE

Reuben S. Horne is classed among the successful farmers of Linn county, being identified with his brother Stewart in the operation of two hundred and fifteen acres of land, one hundred and eighty acres of which are located on section 32, College township, while the remainder is situated across the line in Johnson county. The latter county was the place of nativity of Reuben S. Horne, whose birth occurred May 25, 1858. He is a son of Jacob and Mary E. (Smith) Horne, the former of German ancestry and the latter of English lineage. The father was born in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, of which state his ancestors were among the earliest settlers, and his grandfather served in the Revolutionary war. He, too, inherited the patriotic spirit so characteristic of his forefathers and enlisted for service in the Civil war but on account of disability was soon honorably discharged. The mother was born in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, in 1826, a daughter of Henry Smith, who was a pioneer of that section of the Keystone state. In 1850 Jacob Horne sought a home in the middle west and in the spring of that year located in Cedar county, Iowa. After a brief period, however, he removed to Johnson county and located on one hundred and thirty-three acres of raw prairie land. In due time he had his land under cultivation and as time passed and he prospered he invested his money in more land, adding to his original holdings a tract of three hundred and twenty acres in Saunders county, Nebraska, which he also improved. In his later years he sold his property and lived retired. He died many years ago. The mother, however, is still living and makes her home with her sons Reuben S. and Stewart, on the home farm. The latter was born June 6, 1861. One brother, Fred F., is a farmer of Wahoo, Saunders county, Nebraska, while two sisters, Emma Louise and Alice Marie, the latter the wife of B. E. Wright, make their home in Portland, Oregon.

Reuben S. Horne, the subject of this review, began his education in the public schools, after which he pursued a course at Mount Vernon College. He remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority and at that period in his life began farming on his own account. He is now associated with his brother Stewart in business and together they own one hundred and eighty acres of land on section 32, College township, Linn county, and thirty acres across the line in Johnson county. They devote a portion of their land to raising corn and oats, while the remainder is used as pasturage. They raise cattle quite extensively, fattening a carload each year for the Chicago markets. The brothers are meeting with success in their labors and are classed with the substantial citizens of their home locality.

In politics the Horne brothers are independent, while their religious faith is indicated by their attending the Methodist Episcopal church. Six decades have passed since their honored father came to this state and became identified with its agricultural interests and although he made his home in Johnson county, he





was equally well known in Linn county. From that time to the present the name has figured prominently in this section and the family is one of the most highly respected, for the sons have followed the rules of life to which they were reared, and honesty, integrity and fair dealing constitute the basis of their success.

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### JOHN ADAMS, JR.

John Adams, Jr., who for a long period was a resident of Cedar Rapids, was born in England, on February 7, 1851, a son of John and Jenepher Adams, both of whom were natives of England. In the year 1854 they started for America with their family and first settled in Illinois, while later they removed to Cedar Rapids where their remaining days were spent.

John Adams, Jr., was only three years of age when his parents sought a home in the new world and remained with them through the period of his boyhood and youth and acquired his education in the public schools. After arriving at years of maturity he was united in marriage to Miss Hattie Williams, who was born in Johnson county, Iowa, on the 29th of September, 1869. She is a daughter of John and Susan (Dutton) Williams, both of whom were natives of Indiana. Her mother died in February, 1909, but the father is still living and now makes his home in Cedar Rapids. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Adams were born six children: Pansy, Jenepher, Esther and Roland, all of whom are at home with their mother; and two children who died in infancy. Following his marriage Mr. Adams was employed as a brassmolder at the Rock Island car shops until his death.

It was on the 23d of November, 1909, that Mr. Adams passed away leaving a widow and four children to mourn his loss. He was devoted to the welfare of his family and was a kind and loving husband and father. He gave his political support to the republican party and was always interested in everything pertaining to the welfare and progress of the community in which he made his home. Since her husband's death Mrs. Adams has conducted a bakery and milk depot at No. 915 South Third street and is a lady of good business ability and energy, carefully and successfully controlling her interests in this connection.

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### ALEXANDER J. MITCHELL

Since 1902 a well improved farm of eighty acres, located on section 35, Clinton township, has been in possession of Alexander J. Mitchell, who is successfully engaged in general farming. He was born on a farm in Linn county, October 6, 1857, a son of James and Margaret Mitchell. The father was born in Buchlyvie, Scotland, March 3, 1821, and after reaching years of maturity decided to try his fortune in the new world, the year 1850 witnessing his arrival in New York. Two years later he continued his journey westward, locating in Linn county, Iowa. Here he entered government land, which he improved and cultivated until 1862, when he disposed of that property and removed to Benton county, where he purchased two hundred and forty acres of land, on which he made his home until 1907. He then disposed of his farming interests and, putting aside all business cares, took up his abode in Cedar Rapids, where he has since lived retired, being now eighty-nine years of age.

Alexander J. Mitchell spent the period of his boyhood and youth as do most boys on a farm. As soon as old enough to follow the plow he was put to work in the fields, his time being thus spent during the spring and summer months, while in the winter seasons he pursued his studies in the district schools, which he attended to the age of fourteen years. Subsequently he gave his entire attention



to work on the home farm until he was thirty-three years of age, when, anxious that his labors might more directly benefit himself, he purchased eighty acres in Benton county, Iowa. He continued his farming operations in that section of the state until 1902, when he disposed of his interests there and, returning to the county of his nativity — Linn — he invested his capital in eighty acres on section 35, Clinton township, which he has since operated. He has made some improvements on the place and now has a model farm, supplied with all conveniences and accessories, while the careful and systematic method he follows in carrying on his work is bringing him gratifying success.

Mr. Mitchell was married in Clinton township, on the 23d of January, 1890, to Miss Mary Henry, a daughter of Mathew and Ann (Hopkins) Henry, who emigrated from Ireland to the United States about 1853 and settled in Ohio. Later they came to Linn county, Iowa, and located on the farm now occupied by our subject and his wife. Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell have a daughter and two sons: Anna Margaret, who at the age of nineteen years is attending the Cedar Rapids high school; James Mathew, seventeen years of age, also a student in the high school of that city; and Chester Alexander, a youth of twelve years, who is a student in the district schools.

Mr. Mitchell is a republican in his political views and his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the United Presbyterian church. He possesses all the elements of what may be termed a "square man"—one in whom to have confidence, a dependable man in any relation and any emergency.

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#### DAVID REECE

Among Linn county's citizens who have long since passed the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten is David Reece, who is now living retired on his farm in Spring Grove township. In the intervening years since his arrival he has taken an active and helpful part in the work of general improvement and progress, and his labor has been of signal service to the community and thus it is imperative that mention be made of him in this volume.

Mr. Reece was born in Highland county, Ohio, December 30, 1823, and in the paternal line comes of Welsh ancestry, while in the maternal line he is of English descent. His parents were William and Rebecca (Hiatt) Reece. David Reece remained with his parents until he attained the age of nineteen years, when he made his first venture in the business world by working at farm labor by the month. He came to Linn county June 7, 1851, and for about a year thereafter engaged in the manufacture of brick in Quasqueton. He then purchased forty acres of land in Spring Grove township from the government, paying for the same a dollar and a quarter per acre. He later added to his original holdings and his farm now embraces one hundred and thirty-eight acres. His entire business career has been devoted to general farming and, although he still resides on the home place, he is now practically living retired, leaving the actual work to his son. He has made many improvements on his farm, which include a nice country residence, a good barn and outbuildings, and the fields each year yield abundant harvests, for the land is very rich and productive.

Mr. Reece has been three times married. In 1843 he wedded Miss Julia Lane, who survived her marriage but three years. He was again married in September, 1850, to Kittie Connor, who departed this life February 16, 1861. For his third wife he chose Annie Klingaman, their marriage being celebrated June 8, 1863. Of the twelve children born only four are living, these being: Floyd N., who makes his home in Canada; Mrs. Nettie Ball, a resident of Quas-



queton, Iowa; Curtis D., on the home farm; and Annie A., the wife of W. H. Herman, a farmer living north of Troy Mills.

Mr. Reece has always been a staunch supporter of the republican party and has filled many public offices. He was the first trustee elected in Spring Grove township and for thirteen years served as justice of the peace. He likewise served two terms as assessor and one term as constable, his entire political service being performed in the interest of the people. The first election in the township was held at his home — an old log house — and a hat was used as the ballot box. There were only thirteen votes cast. The minutes of that election have been framed and are still treasured by the Reece family. Mr. Reece's religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist church. He can remember a time when much of the land was unclaimed and uncultivated and when comparatively few of the fields were fenced but as the years passed new settlers made their way into this part of the state and, recognizing the value of the rich prairie, have converted it into beautiful homes and farms. He can now look back over a life well spent and at the age of eighty-seven years enjoys a rest that is richly deserved.

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#### CURTIS D. REECE

Curtis D. Reece was born on the home farm in Spring Grove township in 1866 and his education, begun in the district schools, was completed in Epworth Seminary at Epworth, Iowa. He was reared on the home farm, the period of his boyhood and youth passing uneventfully. He is now managing the homestead for his aged father and his progressive and enterprising methods are resulting in abundant crops each year.

Mr. Reece was married in September, 1896, to Miss Eveline Renfer, a daughter of Jacob D. and Martha H. Renfer, the former a native of Switzerland and the latter of Ohio. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Reece has been blessed with four children, Hulda I., Anna P., Celia F. and Charles F., aged respectively thirteen, eleven, eight and five years. Mr. Reece is trustee of Spring Grove township and in carrying on his business affairs fully sustains the reputation that has always been borne by his honored father.

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#### GEORGE W. STORY

George W. Story, prominent in the financial circles of Fairfax as cashier of the Fairfax Savings Bank, was born in Blairstown, Iowa, on the 16th of March, 1878, and is a son of Danford W. and Mary A. Story. The father, a native of Sandusky, Ohio, where his birth occurred in April, 1832, took up his abode in Blairstown, Iowa, in 1868, and there engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in 1908.

George W. Story is indebted to the public-school system of Iowa for the educational privileges enjoyed during the period of his boyhood and youth, remaining a student until eighteen years of age. That age found him eager to enter business life that he might provide for his own maintenance, and he secured employment as a telegraph operator and station agent in his native city, remaining in that position for five years. At the expiration of that period he was transferred to Fairfax where, for six years, he was in the employ of the Northwestern Railroad. He then relinquished his connection with railroad interests to enter the financial field, being chosen cashier of the Fairfax Savings Bank, the last report of which





shows a capital stock of ten thousand dollars and undivided profits amounting to one thousand dollars. In so much as the policy of this bank has ever been businesslike and conservative, it has inspired the confidence and trust of the general public and its list of patrons is constantly increasing, making it one of the reliable and well known moneyed institutions of the place. In the capacity of cashier Mr. Story has become popular alike with patrons and officials of the bank, for, at all times courteous and genial, he gives prompt and careful attention to rich and poor alike, while his ability and reliability in the discharge of duties devolving upon him and the loyalty which he shows to the interests of the bank make him a valued factor in the life of that institution.

On the 29th of November, 1906, at Fairfax, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Story to Miss Josephine Petrik, and the hospitality of their home is enjoyed by a large number of warm friends whom the couple have gathered around them. They hold membership in the Catholic church, while in his fraternal relations Mr. Story is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he votes an independent ticket, always supporting the best men and most desirable measures, and although the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him he has ever recognized the obligations as well as the privileges that belong to citizenship and has cast his influence on the side of progress and improvement in all matters pertaining to the upbuilding and development of the community.

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#### GUSTAV MADERY

Gustav Madery, who passed away on the 10th of August, 1910, and was laid to rest in Pleasant Hill cemetery, was one of the leading citizens and representative farmers of Jackson township. He was born on the 28th of December, 1854, in Switzerland. His parents, Martin and Barbara (Hizerman) Madery, were also born in the land of the Alps and in the midst of its beautiful scenery were reared and married. It was in 1865 that the father emigrated to America and located in Michigan, but the mother and children did not arrive until two years later. She died within two months after reaching Michigan, and the father and family subsequently came to Linn county, Iowa, locating on a farm here, where he spent his remaining days, passing away March 17, 1888. His children were: Gustav, of this review; Jacob, deceased; and Adolph, also a resident of Jackson township.

Gustav Madery began his education in the schools of his native land and after coming to this country continued his studies for a time. During his boyhood and youth he assisted his father in the operation of the home farm and remained at home until twenty-eight years of age. On starting out in life for himself at that time he rented land which he operated for three years and at the end of that time purchased a part of the property on which he continued to reside throughout the remainder of his life. He later extended the boundaries of his farm until he owned two hundred and thirty acres of fine land on sections 14 and 23, Jackson township. He ran a dairy in connection with his farming and, as a wide-awake, progressive and industrious farmer, he met with more than ordinary success.

On the 9th of October, 1880, Mr. Madery was united in marriage to Miss Eva Blakely, who was born, in 1860, on the farm where they are now living, her parents being David and Elizabeth (Myers) Blakely, the former a native of Nova Scotia and the latter of New York state. They were among the pioneers of Linn county, Iowa, and in the early development and improvement of this section of the state they bore an important part. Both died here. In their family were only two children and to Mr. and Mrs. Madery were also born two children, namely: Gertrude, now the wife of Walter Pike, and Hermond, who married Florence Pike and has one child, Fern Iola.





GUSTAV MADERY



In his fraternal relations Mr. Madery was an Odd Fellow, belonging to Lodge No. 225, of Central City. He used his right of franchise in support of the republican party and its principles and he was called upon to serve as road supervisor for thirteen years and as school director for the same period. He was an earnest and consistent member of the Church of Christ, to which his wife also belongs, and their lives have ever been in harmony with their professions. Wherever known he was held in high regard and throughout Linn county he had many warm friends who appreciated his sterling worth and many excellent characteristics.

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### GENERAL W. L. DAVIS

General W. L. Davis was a gallant soldier of the Civil war and few men have been equally well known in connection with the Iowa National Guard. His local connection as a resident of Cedar Rapids has been that of manager of the money order department of the postoffice for nearly twenty years, and his military service has been characterized by no greater loyalty or fidelity than he has displayed in the discharge of his civic duties. General Davis is the fourth son of Rev. Dr. William and Charlotte (Miller) Davis, the father being a minister of much prominence in the church of the United Brethren in Christ. The son was born August 4, 1843, near South Bend, Indiana. The family, owing to the father being called to various pastorates, frequently changed their place of abode and Bluffton, Indiana, and Dayton, Westerville, Cincinnati and Seven Mile, Ohio, were successively the places of residence of the family during the childhood of General Davis. While serving as pastor of the congregation of his church, the Rev. William Davis pursued a course of study in the Cincinnati Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1849. Soon after completing the course there, he removed to Seven Mile, a village about thirty miles north of Cincinnati, where for ten years he enjoyed a large practice as a member of the medical profession, while his children were given the advantage of excellent common school and academic training. In 1861 the call of the west brought General Davis and his two elder brothers to Arcola, Illinois, where an unsuccessful effort was made at farming. The elder brothers enlisted in the Fifty-fourth Illinois Infantry, leaving the younger brother with the farm crop and all the appurtenances to dispose of and claims to settle. The father came on from Ohio and took charge and General Davis found a special engagement to teach in Westfield College during the winter.

The spring of 1862 found the family in Muscatine, Iowa, and William Davis in the employ of Neidig & Burtner as traveling salesman in Mercer and Rock Island counties, Illinois. In this he was quite successful. On the 7th of August, 1862, General Davis enlisted as a member of Company B, Thirty-fifth Iowa Infantry, under command of Captain A. B. John. On settling with his employer he was amazed at his remuneration, it being more than double what he had anticipated. Being a stranger or nearly so in the city and state, preferment was neither sought nor expected with his company and regiment. He participated in a series of battles which resulted in the capture of Vicksburg under General Grant, the subsequent campaign of Sherman against Jackson, Mississippi, the Meridian campaign, the Red River expedition, including the battles of Fort De Russy, Henderson Hill and Pleasant Hill, and the operations at the mouth of the Black River. Later under the command of General A. J. Smith, he took part in the battle of Lake Chicot, Arkansas. The next few months were spent in West Tennessee, Arkansas and Missouri, chasing Price and Marmaduke from those districts. This being accomplished, his command embarked at St. Louis and proceeded to Nashville, Tennessee, where under "Pap" Thomas,





General Davis took part in a two days' battle that drove Hood from the state, continuing the pursuit to Eastport, Mississippi. A short respite from the strenuously active campaign and the troops then received orders to proceed to Mobile, Alabama, by way of New Orleans. While at Memphis, Mr. Davis, then a young lieutenant, received orders from the war department to report to General A. L. Chetlain at Memphis for assignment to duty. There he remained during the rest of his army life, performing all the duties pertaining to the office of his rank until his muster out, March 31, 1866, a portion of the time being in command of the "Irving Military Prison."

On his return from the army he found his father presiding over the destinies of Western College at Western, Iowa. He pursued a course in the business college at Pittsburg, afterward becoming traveling salesman for N. B. Brown, a manufacturer of woolen goods in Cedar Rapids, later managing a couple of real-estate transactions at Lisbon, and then hung out his sign proclaiming him to be a dealer in drugs, paints, oils, wall paper, etc.

In 1867 General Davis was married to Miss Mattie W. Cowden of Pennsylvania. Prosperity and adversity in about equal proportions came as they do to most people. The community was one day shocked by the suicide of the editor of the Lisbon Sun and his widow requested Mr. Davis to assume the management of the paper. Later he bought the plant and continued as editor and proprietor of the Sun during the succeeding ten years. Within a month after the beginning of General Grant's first term as president he was appointed postmaster of Lisbon and continued in office for nearly a year after Mr. Cleveland's first term as president began, so that his incumbency covered more than sixteen consecutive years. Being of a military turn of mind, Mr. Davis soon after locating in Lisbon organized a company of state militia, now the National Guard, and was elected its captain. A year later he was chosen lieutenant colonel of the First Regiment of the Iowa National Guard. The Lisbon company was then transferred to Cedar Rapids and George Greene was elected captain. Four years later Mr. Davis was commissioned colonel of the regiment which under his management gained a reputation for efficiency and deportment and military bearing unequalled by any in the state. It was during his five years' service as colonel that he organized a battalion of the National Guard of the state, conducting them to Washington, D. C. The command was in the inaugural parade of President Benjamin Harrison. It is noticeable that this is the only instance in which Iowa troops ever participated in the inauguration of a president of the United States. The command was royally treated and was applauded vociferously for its excellence. The newly inaugurated president extended to the members a special reception at the White House and the newspapers of the city gave illustrations of the command in the procession, and also cuts of the officers. When General B. A. Beeson was appointed by the governor to the office of adjutant general, Colonel Davis was chosen as his successor in command of the Second Brigade, I. N. G. It was during this period in his military career that the Columbian Exposition was held in Chicago and the ceremony pertaining to the dedication of the buildings was participated in by a large contingent of the military force of several states. Adjutant General George Greene, under General Boies, by his orders organized a brigade of the First and Second Regiments from the Iowa National Guard, placing General Davis in command, although he was not the senior commanding officer. Disagreeable weather to a great extent marred much of the ceremony, yet on the day of the greatest display, General Miles, the Commander-in-Chief, took occasion to highly compliment Colonel F. W. Malin and his First Iowa Regiment for their almost perfect work as escort to the vice president, a part of which escort duty the regiment had to perform on double time. General Davis was placed on the retired list of the state at the expiration



of his five years' service as brigadier general and has since continued in civil life.

Four children were born unto General and Mrs. Davis: Carrie, who is now head of a division in the agricultural department in Washington, D. C.; Lulu B., who is the widow of B. F. Tisdale and lives in this city; Arthur W., a letter-carrier connected with the Cedar Rapids postoffice; and Ira J., who was drowned in the Cedar River near the Palisades, May 17, 1894.

General Davis is a member of the United Brethren church and is president of its board of trustees. He belongs to Mount Hermon Lodge, A. F. & A. M.; Trowel Chapter, R. A. M.; Apollo Commandery, K. T., and also to El Kahir Temple of the Mystic Shrine. His political allegiance is given to the republican party but he has never sought elective office although he has been continuously in public service. He has made a distinguished record in military circles and manifests public spirit in his support of municipal interests, furthering every movement and measure for the general good.

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### N. B. RICHARDSON

Since 1893 N. B. Richardson has been identified with the interests of Coggon, where he is now engaged in the real-estate business and the loaning of money. His birthplace was in Delaware county, Iowa, and his natal day was July 6, 1857. He is a representative of one of the honored pioneer families of this state. His parents, Aaron and Maria E. (Belding) Richardson, both natives of Cheshire county, New Hampshire, were there reared and married, the year of their marriage being 1852. About 1854 or 1855 they located in Delaware county, Iowa. In the east the father was identified with railroading but after coming to Iowa located on a farm in Hazel Green township, Delaware county. Throughout a long period he was thus connected with the agricultural interests of that section of the state and took a most active part in development and progress along those lines. He spent his last years in Hopkinton, there living retired until his demise in 1904, when he was seventy-nine years of age. In politics a republican, he took a very active part in public affairs, doing all in his power to promote the interests of his party. He was a member of the board of county supervisors of Delaware county for many years and served in other local offices. He was likewise prominent in Masonic circles and was a well informed man, highly esteemed by all with whom he came in contact.

N. B. Richardson was reared in his native county and began his education in the common schools, the knowledge thus acquired being supplemented by study in Lennox College at Hopkinton and in Bailey's Business College at Dubuque. He graduated from the latter institution with the class of 1877, after which he returned to the home farm and assumed management of the same, being thus engaged until the time of his marriage in 1883. Following that event he conducted a creamery business in connection with farming for ten years. In 1893 he came to Coggon, Linn county, and entered the Coggon State Bank in the capacity of clerk, his capability in this connection winning him promotion to the position of cashier some three or four months later. He served continuously in the latter position for sixteen years, when he severed his connection with that institution to engage in business on his own account, being engaged now in the real-estate and loan business, and in both departments he is meeting with success. He has negotiated many important property transfers and loans money at a good rate of interest, so that he is now numbered among the wide-awake and enterprising business men of Coggon.





In 1883 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Richardson and Miss Flora J. McBride, of Delaware county, Iowa. Their union has been blessed with three daughters but the eldest, Winifred, is deceased. The two surviving daughters, Florence and Anna, are high school students.

Following in the political footsteps of his father, Mr. Richardson gives his support to the republican platform. At the present writing, 1910, he is a member of the town council and the school board, having served in both capacities for a number of years. He is a Mason, belonging to Mecca Lodge, No. 523, at Coggon, and he is likewise identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. Mrs. Richardson is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Richardson has put forward every endeavor to make today find him further advanced than yesterday and looks forward to the morrow to add to his attainment. Every change he has made in his business life has given him a wider outlook and broader scope for the exercise of his energy and ambitions and today his record is characterized by those qualities which win him classification with leading citizens and reliable business men.

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#### MANVILLE P. SMITH

Manville P. Smith is now living practically retired in Marion, having gained a handsome competence through the careful conduct of agricultural interests in this state. His birth occurred in Jones county, Iowa, his parents being B. A. and Irene (Reed) Smith, who were natives of West Virginia and Ohio respectively, the former born in 1833 and the latter in 1832. In the year 1849 they removed westward to Iowa, settling in Jones county, where the father entered a quarter section of land, making his home thereon throughout the remainder of his life. Until 1875 he lived in a log house which he had erected on his arrival but in that year replaced the primitive structure by a more commodious dwelling. He likewise brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and improvement and made the farm a most valuable and productive one. At the time of the Civil war he enlisted for service in the Union army as a member of Company G, Thirty-first Iowa Volunteer Infantry and served three years and four months, participating in the battles of Shiloh, Gettysburg, Lookout Mountain and other important engagements. He was also with Sherman on the march to the sea. He passed away in 1890 in the faith of the Baptist church, his remains being interred in the cemetery at Olin, Iowa.

Following his demise Mrs. Smith left the farm and removed to Olin, where she resided until called to her final rest in 1906. She was also a devoted member of the Baptist church and was buried in the Olin cemetery. Her family numbered eight children, as follows: Commodore A., who is married and lives in Texas; Katherine, the wife of C. A. Coppess, of Olin, Jones county; Mary V., who is the wife of W. F. Giddings and resides in Hale, Iowa; Manville P., of this review; Tilly L., the wife of W. H. Walston, of Dallas county, Iowa; Frank W., who is married and makes his home in Colorado; Ina B., the wife of W. F. Freeman, of Olin, Jones county; and Ila V., who is the wife of J. Stokes and resides in Iowa City, Iowa.

Manville P. Smith remained at home until he had reached man's estate and then started out as an agriculturist on his own account, operating a rented tract of land for four years. On the expiration of that period he purchased a farm of two hundred and twenty acres in Marshall county, Iowa, resided thereon for five years and then leased the property to a tenant for one year, removing to Jones county. There he purchased one hundred and seventy acres of land and in 1895 also traded his Marshall county farm for one in Jones county, where his land





holdings therefore aggregated three hundred and fifteen acres. After living in Jones county for eight years he sold his property and went to Cedar county, Iowa, where in 1902 he purchased two hundred and forty acres of land. He likewise bought property to the value of one thousand dollars in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, which he later sold at a good profit. In Cedar county he made his home for five years and in 1907 came to Linn county, purchasing eighty acres of land within the corporation limits of Marion. After residing thereon for three years, however, he bought city residence property and is now living practically retired, having won a handsome competence through his successful operations as a dealer in Iowa land. In connection with the tilling of the soil he devoted considerable attention to the feeding of stock and this branch of his business likewise proved very profitable. He still owns the eighty-acre farm within the city limits of Marion and is interested in the dairy business which is there conducted by his son-in-law, Chester Knight.

On the 1st of January, 1885, Mr. Smith was united in marriage to Miss Emma B. Clay, a daughter of D. A. and Lovisa N. (Root) Clay, who are residents of Hale, Jones county, Iowa. The father was born in London, England, in 1842, while the mother's birth occurred in Connecticut in 1849. Until his health began to fail in recent years, Mr. Clay took an active part in public affairs and served as trustee of his township and as a member of the county board of supervisors. His children were ten in number, as follows: Mrs. Smith; Josephine, the wife of E. Sawyer, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Ida E., the wife of James Ballou, of Cedar county; Oren E., who is married and resides in Spokane, Washington; Ozias, deceased; one who died in infancy; D. L., who is married and makes his home at Hartley, O'Brien county, Iowa; Lyda, who gave her hand in marriage to J. W. Fowlie and resides in Cedar county; Bertha I., the wife of L. A. Pattent, of York-shire, Iowa; and Leona M., at home. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Smith were born four children, namely: Clarence E., whose birth occurred on the 12th of March, 1886, and who passed away in September of the same year; Clayton P., at home, who is a high school graduate; Laverne E., who is the wife of Chester Knight and resides in this county on her father's farm, and Bert A., likewise at home.

In politics Mr. Smith has ever been a staunch republican yet has never sought office as a reward for his party fealty. He belongs to the Sons of Veterans and is officially connected with the camp at Marion as consul. His wife is conductor of the Woman's Relief Corps, the ladies' auxiliary of the Grand Army of the Republic. Both are devoted and consistent members of the Christian church and take an active interest in its work. Mr. Smith has gained the warm esteem of all with whom he has come in contact because of his upright and honorable life and also by reason of the straightforward methods he has ever followed in his business career.

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#### E. G. ASHBY

The name of E. G. Ashby is on the roll of Union soldiers for at the time of the Civil war he valiantly espoused the cause which upheld the supremacy of the federal government. He was born in Illinois and his parents, Dantel and Nancy Ashby, were also natives of that state. They came to Iowa, however, at an early period in its development, the father continuing his residence here until after the outbreak of hostilities between the north and the south, when he joined the northern ranks and remained at the front until death claimed him. His widow afterward passed away in Iowa.

E. G. Ashby was reared under the parental roof, no event of especial importance occurring to vary the routine of life for him in his boyhood days. In the



year 1861, however, there occurred an important event — his marriage to Miss Sarah E. Hollingsworth, who was born in Marion county, Indiana, in 1846, and is a daughter of Jeremiah and Elizabeth (Pollard) Hollingsworth, natives of Ohio. The year 1851 witnessed their arrival in Appanoose county, Iowa, where the father purchased land and developed a good farm, continuing its cultivation until his life's labors were ended in death. His widow still survives and is now living in Centerville, Iowa, at the age of ninety-three years. In their family were twelve children, of whom six are yet living.

Mr. and Mrs. Ashby had been married only a brief period when he felt that the country needed his aid and that it was his duty to go to the front. Accordingly he enrolled with the boys in blue of an Iowa regiment and for three years participated with his command in all of the skirmishes and engagements in which it took part. He left the army a nervous wreck but as soon as possible he resumed the duties of business life and thereafter gave his time and energies to teaching school and to farming. He was diligent, capable and persistent in all that he did and his energy and determination enabled him to provide a comfortable living for his family. The cause of education found in him a stalwart champion and his methods of instruction were valuable in character while his ideas concerning the improvement of the schools were most practical. For four years he filled the office of county superintendent and during that time greatly furthered the interests of public education in the county.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ashby were born eight children: John C., now living in Centerville, Iowa; Flora, the wife of Judge Rall, of Cedar Rapids; Melville S., whose home is in Colorado Springs, Colorado; Katherine, living in New York city; William C., who is located in Cedar Rapids; Evelyn, who is graduate of the high school and is at home with her mother; Berry U., deceased; and Delbert R., also at home.

In his political views Mr. Ashby was a republican, giving stalwart allegiance to the party from the time that age conferred upon him the right of franchise until his death. He always kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day and he was a believer in progress and advancement, cooperating in all movements which he deemed would further the public improvement. At his death, which occurred in Centerville, Iowa, in 1896, many friends mourned his loss for he had greatly endeared himself to all who knew him. Mrs. Ashby still survives her husband and now makes her home at No. 1726 First avenue, in Cedar Rapids. She is a member of the organization known as the Millennium Dawn. Like her husband she has won high regard wherever she is known and her warmest friends are those who have known her longest.

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#### FRANK O. THOMPSON

Frank O. Thompson devotes his time to the cultivation of one hundred and twenty acres of land, located in Spring Grove township, this tract having been in his possession since 1904. He is a native of that township, born August 2, 1868, a son of James and Jane (Grant) Thompson, who settled in Linn county in 1853. Here the father operated rented land for three years, at the end of which time he purchased eighty acres, and a few years later made an additional purchase of eighty acres, his place comprising one hundred and sixty acres. He became a prosperous man and was identified with farming interests in Linn county until his death, which occurred January 22, 1888. The mother survived for many years departing this life March 27, 1901.

Frank O. Thompson was reared under the parental roof, assisting his father in the work of the home place until the latter's death, after which he continued





with his mother until his twenty-third year. At that period in his life he established a home of his own by his marriage on the 14th of January, 1891, the lady of his choice being Miss Lena Herriott, a daughter of Aaron C. and Rachel E. (Kerr) Herriott, natives of Ohio. Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Thompson began their domestic life upon a farm, Mr. Thompson operating rented land for thirteen years. He then purchased one hundred and twenty acres, which is his present place of abode, this land being located in Spring Grove township. He has made modern improvements on the place and now owns a valuable property.

In politics a republican, Mr. Thompson has ever taken a lively interest in public affairs. For four years he served as township trustee, while for two years he acted as road supervisor. He was likewise school director for six years and in this connection did good service. In religious faith he is a Methodist, while his fraternal relations connect him with Wapsie Lodge, No. 235, at Central City, Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are the parents of a son and two daughters, Roy Lewis, Pearl Edna and Hazel May, aged respectively, seventeen, fourteen and twelve years, and the family is one of the most prominent in Spring Grove township. Mr. Thompson is a busy man, constantly occupied with the duties relative to the development and improvement of his farm, and during the years of his residence in this county his substantial probity as a business man and his progressiveness in citizenship have gained him his present firm hold on the good will and regard of his fellow townsmen.

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#### WILLIAM S. GRAFFT

After many years devoted to agricultural pursuits, William S. Grafft is now living retired in Central City, Iowa. Throughout life he has been identified with the interests of this state and has done much toward its development and improvement, especially along agricultural lines. He was born in Jones county, five miles from the village of Olin, on the 28th of October, 1850, his parents being David W. and Christina (Byerly) Grafft, both of whom were natives of Ohio, though they were not married until after their removal to Iowa. At an early day our subject's paternal grandfather became a resident of Jones county, establishing his home near Olin, and a short time later, in 1846, was joined by his son D. W. Grafft, who continued his residence here until called to the world beyond, May 11, 1903, at the age of seventy-eight years. Throughout life he followed farming but also devoted considerable attention to the blacksmith's trade. It was on the 30th of March, 1843, that he was united in marriage to Miss Christina Byerly, a daughter of Francis Byerly, who was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, March 8, 1826, and died in Jones county, Iowa, January 16, 1899, having come to this state in 1846. From girlhood, Mrs. Grafft was an earnest and consistent member of the United Brethren church. She was the mother of nine children: William S., of this review; John H., who is living on the old home farm in Jones county; Mary Catherine, the wife of Frank Blendy, a farmer of Jones county; Martha Ann, the wife of Lewis Porter, of Cherokee, Iowa; James Albert, a resident of Clovis, California; David Edward, of Rock Rapids, Iowa; Della Jane, the wife of Robert McMurren, of Cherokee, Iowa; Francis Marion, a farmer of Jones county; and Elizabeth Elba, the wife of William Lusk, of Jones county.

The common schools of his native county afforded W. S. Grafft his educational privileges and he remained at home until he attained his majority, giving his father the benefit of his services in carrying on the home farm. On leaving the





parental roof he worked as a farm hand for a time and then operated his father's farm for three years, at the end of which time he purchased land north of Central City, to the improvement and cultivation of which he devoted his energies for three years. He then purchased one hundred and sixty-eight acres, which he still owns and was engaged in the cultivation and improvement of that place for several years but now makes his home in Central City, having retired from active life. Besides this farm, which he still owns, he has other property in Marion, Iowa. He was a progressive and up-to-date farmer and the success which he achieved was well merited.

Mr. Grafft was married March 3, 1880, to Miss Alice Kratzer, who was born in Davis, Illinois, a daughter of Samuel and Malinda (Drake) Kratzer. Her father was a native of Ohio, his birth place being near Cincinnati, but at an early day he removed to the Prairie state. His family consisted of ten children, namely: Lewis R., who resides near Walker, Iowa; S. N., living near Central City; Mary Ellen, the wife of John Allemang, who is living retired in Kansas City; Martha Ann, whose home is near Center Point; Lucy Jane, deceased; David William, a farmer of Center Point; Alice, the wife of our subject; Sarah Malissa, the wife of Henry Barr, whose home is near Edgewood, Iowa; Emma Lavina, the wife of Charles Dilley, of Maryville, Missouri; and Hannah Maria, also living near Maryville, Missouri.

To Mr. and Mrs. Grafft have been born five children, as follows: Earl Gray, a mechanic of Waterloo, Iowa; Edna Blanch, the wife of George Masterhan, a farmer of Marion county; Flossie May, attending school in Cedar Falls; Mary Ida, deceased; and Stacy Fenton, who is also attending school.

The democratic party finds in Mr. Grafft a staunch supporter of its principles but he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. Both he and his wife are members of the Mystic Tillers and she is also identified with the Methodist Episcopal church, which he, too, attends. During their residence in Central City they have made many warm friends and throughout the county they are both widely and favorably known.

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### WILLIAM DENNIS

On the roster of county officials appears the name of William Dennis, of Marion, who is now filling the position of county clerk in a manner entirely acceptable, for the duties of the office are discharged in a prompt, systematic and thoroughly reliable manner. His birth occurred in Madison county, Illinois, on the 20th of April, 1870, his parents being Jasper and Eliza (Conery) Dennis. His paternal great-grandfather, Joshua Dennis, who was born in the north of Ireland, emigrated to the United States and took up his abode among the early settlers of Tennessee, where he entered a tract of land. The paternal grandparents of our subject were Harvey and Catherine (Blair) Dennis. The former was a native of Tennessee and a farmer and mechanic by occupation. After removing to Illinois he established his home among the pioneer settlers of Greene county, that state, and there continued to reside until called to his final rest in 1863.

Jasper Dennis, the father of William Dennis, has followed farming as a life work and in August, 1865, removed from Greene county, Illinois, to Madison county, that state, where he made his home until he had attained middle age. He then went to Woodbury county, Iowa, and subsequently made his way to Monona county, this state, where he lived until the time of his removal to Wyoming. He still resides on a ranch of three hundred and twenty acres in that state, devoting his attention to the pursuits of farming and stock-raising.





WILLIAM DENNIS



William Dennis spent the first fourteen years of his life in the state of his nativity and attended the district schools of his home locality. In 1884 he accompanied his parents on their removal to Woodbury county, Iowa, and continued his studies in the high school at Sloan. Subsequently he taught school in that county for five years and in 1895 entered Cornell College at Mount Vernon, Linn county, from which institution he was graduated in 1900. The following year he completed a course of study in the University of Iowa, graduating in the class of 1901 from the College of Law, and then located at Mount Vernon for the practice of law, there remaining a successful representative of legal interests until the time of his election to the office of county clerk in 1908. The following year he took up his abode in Marion and has since discharged his official duties with notable promptness and fidelity.

In 1903 Mr. Dennis was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Reeder, of Tipton, Iowa, her parents being A. C. and Eva (McCune) Reeder. They now have two children, George R. and Margaret E.

Mr. Dennis belongs to the Masonic fraternity, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Fraternal Insurance Order. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist church. In whatever relation of life he has been found he has been true and loyal to the trust reposed in him and his life has been in conformity with a high standard of conduct.

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#### J. M. SKVOR

J. M. Skvor, a registered pharmacist who is conducting a growing and successful business at No. 100 First avenue west, was born in Cedar Rapids, in February, 1870. The dominating element in the citizenship of Cedar Rapids is that which Bohemia has furnished. Many of the most prominent and influential citizens, those who are most active in public life and business affairs, are of Bohemian nativity or lineage. The parents of our subject are John and Katherine Skvor, both of whom were natives of Bohemia, whence they came to America in 1868. Arriving in this country they made their way to Linn county where the father died in 1883. The mother long survived him and passed away in 1906. In their family were six children all of whom are yet living.

J. M. Skvor started out in life on his own account when but thirteen years of age, for at that time he lost his father and it was necessary that he provide for his own support. He was a pupil of the public schools of this city, but the necessity of earning his living prevented him from completing the regular course. As he advanced in years and in judgment he saw that the most successful men were those well trained for the work or line of business to which they were giving their attention. He determined that he would qualify for the drug business and to this end he entered the State University at Iowa City, there completing a course in pharmacy. Following his registration he returned to Cedar Rapids and is now engaged in business at 100 First avenue west where he has built up a satisfactory trade. He endeavors at all times to meet the wants of his customers and in all of his dealings is thoroughly reliable, for he believes that only that success is worth while which is won upon the principle that "honesty is the best policy."

In 1895 Mr. Skvor was married to Miss Louise Simon, a native of Bohemia, who was brought to America during her infancy. Three children have been born to this union: Leo J., Lenore F. and Louise Katherine. That Mr. Skvor has prospered is indicated in the fact that he now owns five good residences on the west side. He is prominent in the Odd Fellows society, having taken all of the degrees of the lodge, Canton, Encampment and Rebekahs, and has also filled all of the chairs in the local organization. He belongs to the Ancient Order of the United





Workmen, the National Union, the Sokols, the Loyal Order of the Moose, and to Z. C. B. J. and other Bohemian societies. He is prominent among the people of that nationality for throughout his entire life he has cultivated those qualities which make for good citizenship and for honorable manhood. Moreover he has developed a strong character in the life work that has prompted him to put forth his strongest efforts and use his opportunities to the best advantage.

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### F. F. ANTLES

F. F. Antles, who for many years was in the employ of the city, but is now deceased, was born in Mount Vernon, Linn county, Iowa, on the 28th of March, 1860. He is a son of Richard and Maria (Jump) Antles, both of whom were natives of Ohio, whence they removed to Iowa in the early '50s, settling in Linn county. Here they resided until they were called to their final rest and during the period of their connection with the county they won many warm friends here.

F. F. Antles was one of a family of six children. In his parents' home his youthful days were spent and he completed his education by graduation from the Madison high school of Cedar Rapids. After arriving at years of maturity he was married in 1881 to Miss Jennie Lally, who was born in Massachusetts in 1860, and is a daughter of Thomas and Bridget (Norton) Lally, both of whom were natives of Ireland, but came to the United States with their parents in their youthful days. The year 1861 witnessed their arrival in Linn county, where they continued to reside until called to their final rest. Their family numbered nine children.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Antles were born seven children: Nellie L., the wife of Darwin Patterson, of Cedar Rapids; Frank F., who is living in this city; Estelle May, who is engaged in the millinery business in Cedar Rapids; Jennie, who follows manicuring; Glenn, Harry and Charles, all at home. After his marriage Mr. Antles engaged in teaming and for fourteen years was in the employ of the city, doing contracting, and in this way he was able to provide a good living for his family and to leave them a comfortable competency when death called him from this life.

His political allegiance was given to the republican party, in the work of which he always took an active and helpful part. He held membership with the Modern Brotherhood and also with the Yeomen of America, and lived up to the principles of both organizations. He died February 17, 1909, at the comparatively early age of forty-nine years, leaving a widow and seven children to mourn his loss. His grave was made in Linwood cemetery and deep regret over his demise was felt by many friends. Mrs. Antles still makes her home in Cedar Rapids and owns a fine residence on Second street west.

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### J. F. MACHACEK

Among the young business men of Cedar Rapids who are proving their worth in commercial circles is numbered J. F. Machacek, who was born at Ely, Iowa, October 12, 1885. He is a son of Joseph and Anna (Sladek) Machacek, both of whom were natives of Bohemia. Crossing the Atlantic to America they became residents of Cedar Rapids in 1885, and are still living here. It was in this city that they reared their two children, including J. F. Machacek, who was educated in the public schools and afterward attended the Iowa University, at



Iowa City, from which he was graduated on the completion of the pharmaceutical course. He afterward worked in a drug store at Cedar Rapids for a time and later began business on his own account. He now has a fine drug store at No. 1105 South Third street. It is tastefully and conveniently arranged and is supplied with a large stock of drugs and druggist's sundries. The store is most modern in its equipment and the straightforward business policy there pursued is bringing to Mr. Machacek a liberal patronage. He has also been appointed in charge of postal station No. 3, which is located in his place of business.

Mr. Machacek is a member of the C. S. P. S. Lodge, No. 46, at Cedar Rapids, and also holds membership in Jan Hus Lodge, No. 51, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Mutual Benefit Association, No. 196, of Cedar Rapids, and the Order of Foresters. He finds favor with his brethren of these fraternities because of his cordiality and sincerity. He is well qualified for the department of business which he has chosen as his life work and as the years have gone by he has firmly established himself among the more enterprising young merchants of the city for whom success in the future seems certain.

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#### AARON J. TODD

Aaron J. Todd, who through the careful conduct of his agricultural interests in former years won the competence that now enables him to live retired, still resides on his farm, which is situated a half mile from Toddville. His birth occurred in New York on the 27th of November, 1837, his parents being Jacob M. and Jane (Smith) Todd, who were of Scotch descent and were likewise natives of the Empire state, the father born in 1808 and the mother on the 17th of June, 1805. In 1856 Jacob M. Todd came to Linn county, Iowa, and purchased a sawmill, successfully operating the same until the time of his death in 1881. His wife, who survived him for a number of years, was called to her final rest in 1895. Unto this worthy couple were born six children, as follows: John A., whose demise occurred in California; Eliza G., the wife of Douglas M. Long; Sarah C. and Jane J., who have likewise passed away; Aaron J., of this review; and Esther, who is also deceased.

Aaron J. Todd spent the first twenty years of his life in the state of his nativity and then accompanied his parents on their removal to Linn county, within the borders of which he has resided continuously since. General agricultural pursuits claimed his attention throughout his active business career and by reason of his untiring industry and capable management he won the competence that now enables him to spend his declining years in well earned ease. His farm is situated within a half mile of Toddville and he still makes his home thereon.

On the 12th of March, 1862, Mr. Todd was joined in wedlock to Miss Sarah J. Ransier, who was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, in 1844, a daughter of George and Lydia Ransier, both of whom were natives of the Buckeye state. Her mother passed away in February, 1896, but her father still survives at the venerable age of ninety-one years and makes his home with our subject. Mrs. Todd was one of a family of nine children and by her marriage has become the mother of four, namely: Jeannette, who wedded William Booze and died on the 24th of April, 1908; Clara, who gave her hand in marriage to H. Oliphant; Wesley, who operates the old homestead farm; and Lydia.

In his political views Mr. Todd is a republican and he has served as the capable incumbent in several township offices, acting as township trustee for three years. Both he and his wife belong to the Church of Christ, in the work of which they take a deep and helpful interest. More than a half century has passed since Mr. Todd came to Linn county and he found this part of the state largely an un-





cultivated wilderness. In the years which have since come and gone he has witnessed a most wonderful transformation as splendid farms have been developed and thriving villages have sprung up. The fact that today this county ranks among the best in the state is largely due to the efforts of those sturdy pioneers who, like Mr. Todd, braved the hardships and privations of frontier life, broke the virgin soil and established homes in the midst of the wilderness. He has ever maintained an unassailable reputation for integrity and is widely recognized as a leading, influential and highly respected citizen. Both he and his estimable wife have a host of warm friends throughout the community and justly merit the regard and esteem which is uniformly accorded them.

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#### LEWIS W. ALT

Numbered among those who claim Iowa as their native state and who, within her borders, have found ample opportunity for success and advancement in business is Lewis W. Alt, who first opened his eyes to the light of day in Johnson county on the 15th of December, 1852. His parents, J. H. and Mary (Wein) Alt, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Ohio, came to Iowa in 1838 and entered land in Johnson county, upon which they continued to reside during the remaining years of their lives. The father died in 1898 at the age of eighty-five years and the mother in 1902 at the age of eighty-four. Their family consisted of eleven children, six of whom are still living.

Passing the period of his boyhood and youth in the usual manner of country lads, Lewis W. Alt attended the district schools in the acquirement of an education, while the periods of vacation were devoted to work about the farm, his early training in the work of the fields being thorough and comprehensive. He later profited by a course of study in a business college and was thus well qualified to meet the responsible and practical duties of business life. Upon attaining his majority he did not at once enter upon an independent business career, but remained on the old homestead, assisting his father, until thirty-two years of age. He then removed to Kansas, where he spent two years, and at the end of that time came to Linn county, Iowa, making his home north of Cedar Rapids for about twenty years. He then located on his present farm adjoining Marion, which in 1908 became his property through purchase. The place consists of twenty-six acres and here Mr. Alt is successfully carrying on a fruit and poultry business. He has a large orchard of select trees, and also cultivates many of the smaller varieties of fruit. His poultry business has become quite extensive for he handles good grades of chickens for which he finds ready sale in the Marion market and throughout the neighborhood. Both branches of his business have been so wisely and carefully managed and the methods used have been so practical that he has won a most creditable success and is ranked among the substantial business men of Marion.

Mr. Alt laid the foundation for a happy home life of his own by his marriage on the 12th of July, 1883, to Miss Mary Stewart, who was born in Freeport, Illinois, on the 27th of August, 1856. She is a daughter of Dr. David and Winefred (Duff) Stewart, natives of Pennsylvania, who came to Illinois about 1857. In 1859 they removed to Johnson county, and they now make their home in North Liberty, Iowa. During the Civil war Dr. Stewart entered the service as captain of Company E, Twenty-eighth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and was made surgeon of his regiment. In 1872 he was elected to the state legislature. He is now living retired. His son, Dr. C. E. Stewart, entered the railway mail service in 1888 and is now state postoffice inspector. Mrs. Alt is one of eight children born unto her parents, and by her marriage to Mr. Alt became the mother of two children:





David Henry, who died when but three months old; and another child who died in infancy.

Politically Mr. Alt gives stalwart allegiance to the republican party and his standing in the community is indicated by the fact that his fellow citizens have on several occasions called him to fill various township offices, the duties of which he has ever performed in a faithful, prompt and efficient manner that left nothing to be desired on the part of all concerned. His fraternal relations are with the Odd Fellows. Having spent his entire life within Iowa's borders, he has become widely acquainted here, while his genial disposition has made for him a circle of warm friends which is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances. He possesses, moreover, those sterling traits of character which in every land and clime win confidence, respect and good will, and by the consensus of public opinion he is accorded a prominent place among the valued citizens of Marion.

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### PHILLIP ONDLER

It is noticeable that Linn county numbers among her citizenship many who in early life have emigrated to America without capital and from a position of comparative obscurity have worked their way upward to a substantial place among its business men. To this class belongs Phillip Ondler, who was born in Germany, June 7, 1832, a son of Frederick and Catharine (Fox) Ondler, who were likewise natives of the fatherland. Emigrating to America, they landed in New York city, January 8, 1848, and at once made their way to Tuscarawas county, Ohio, arriving there in May. The father purchased seventy-five acres of land in that section of the state and was identified with its cultivation until his death, which occurred about 1875. The mother died in Missouri in 1872.

Phillip Ondler was a youth of sixteen at the time of the family's emigration to the new world. Immediately upon his arrival here he began to work by the month at farm labor, his time being thus occupied until he was twenty-two years of age, when he rented a farm and began business on his own account, operating one hundred and twenty acres. In the meantime, in 1864, he had located in Iowa, and three years later, in 1867, he took up his abode in Spring Grove township, Linn county. In the latter section he rented one hundred and sixty acres of land, operating the same for two years. In 1869 he purchased eighty acres of his present property, in 1875 bought eighty more and subsequently purchased an adjoining tract of two hundred and twelve acres. He has made many modern improvements on the place, on which stands a nice country residence, a good barn and outbuildings, and the property with all of its equipments is one of the valuable tracts in Spring Grove township. The fields, too, are under a high state of cultivation, returning golden harvests as a reward for the care and labor bestowed upon them.

On the 2d of April, 1854, occurred the marriage of Mr. Ondler and Miss Sally Sherretts, a daughter of John and Elizabeth Sherretts, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ondler were born thirteen children, as follows: W. C., who is married and lives in Oklahoma; A. L., who is married and makes his home in Dows, Iowa; Mrs. Malinda Stawl, who lives in New Mexico; Mrs. Mandy M. Carson, who resides in Spring Grove township; I. E., who is married and lives in Coggon, Iowa; M. M., who makes his home in Spring Grove township and is now acting as trustee of the same; Phillip H., a resident of Buchanan county, Iowa; Mrs. Cora Elizabeth Helbig, a resident of La Fayette, Iowa; Mrs. Rhoda N. Laird, of Walker, Iowa; Fred P., who is married and lives in Grant township, Linn county; John W., who died in December, 1894; Lewis



H., who departed this life in 1867; and Ada Grace, whose death occurred in 1880. The wife and mother was called to her final rest in January, 1898, after a happy married life covering forty-four years. On the 22d of March, 1899, Mr. Ondler was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Miles Laird.

In principle and practice a republican, Mr. Ondler is ever found ready to promote the best interests of the party and to assist his fellowmen or the public. For eighteen years he served as road supervisor, while for twenty years he acted as school director. For a similar period he was also treasurer of the Highland Creamery and for ten years was treasurer of the Troy Mills Horse Company. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the German Lutheran church, while his fraternal relations connect him with Morris Lodge, No. 500, A. F. & A. M. His record in public service as well as in the pursuits of private interests is one of unremitting and tireless toil, and he has worked his way up to his present high standing in the business world and in the hearts of his neighbors by adhering strictly to honest and honorable methods.

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### SAMUEL FERNOW

Samuel Fernow, deceased, was a resident of Linn county from the period of its early development until progress and improvement had carried it far toward the present prosperous condition which it now enjoys. He was connected with its agricultural interests and was widely known as a diligent and enterprising farmer. He was born in Ross county, Ohio, October 9, 1835, and was a son of Solomon and Marjorie (Harper) Fernow, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Ohio. They came to Linn county, Iowa, in 1851 and purchased the farm upon which Mrs. Samuel Fernow is now living. They were the parents of eight children, all of whom have passed away. Both the father and mother died in Linn county, spending their last days on the farm where they first settled.

Samuel Fernow was a youth of sixteen years when he came with his parents to Iowa. His education was begun in the schools of his native state and after he came to Linn county he actively assisted his father in the development and improvement of a new farm, remaining at home until 1859, when he was married and established a home of his own. The lady of his choice was Miss Barbara A. McArthur, who was also born in Ross county, Ohio, her natal year being 1841. Her parents were Frederick P. and Elizabeth (Jones) McArthur, who came to Linn county in 1845 and here entered land from the government. Some months had passed ere Iowa was admitted to the Union and much of the state was still an undeveloped and unimproved tract of prairie land. Upon his claim Mr. McArthur built a log cabin and there lived in true pioneer style for several years. In 1849, during the gold excitement in California, he joined in the mad rush across the plains, hoping to soon secure a fortune upon the coast. There he continued to reside until his death in 1881. He had long survived his wife, who passed away in Linn county in 1852. Mrs. Fernow was one of two children and by her marriage became the mother of six children: Mary A., now the wife of J. H. Crew, of this county; Edward L. and Fred P., also living in Linn county; Lulu B., who married A. H. Drew and went to New Mexico for her health but instead of improving grew steadily worse and passed away May 14, 1910, leaving a husband and five children, and her remains were interred in Oak Shade cemetery, Marion, Iowa; and E. W. and Carl L., twins, the latter now living at home with his mother.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Fernow took charge of the old home farm and diligently and persistently carried on the work of the fields up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1884. He was laid to rest in the Oak Shade





cemetery and his demise was deeply regretted by many friends, for he had become widely and favorably known in this county during his residence here and was numbered among the progressive farmers and reliable, trustworthy business men. Mrs. Fernow still owns the old homestead of ninety-four acres, which is situated in Marion township. She, as well as her entire family down to the third generation, is a devoted and faithful member of the Presbyterian church and she has a large circle of warm friends in Linn county. She has been a faithful mother, rearing and caring for her children, whom she has seen reach years of maturity and become prosperous. She is also a member of the Farmers Club, in which she takes a very active part. Living in this county from pioneer times, she has witnessed much of its development and upbuilding and has rejoiced in what has been accomplished. Out of the colony of fourteen who came to Linn county in 1845 from Ohio by teams, there are now but two living, Mrs. Fernow and her aunt, Mrs. Mary Jones, who is now in her eighty-ninth year. During the first summer spent here there was sickness in every family and they took turns in nursing and caring for one another. One of the neighbors, John Leveridge, carried Mrs. Fernow's father and mother to his wagon and took them to his log cabin, where they remained until able to return home.

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### HENRY LEFEBURE

The name of Lefebure is known throughout this country and also in Belgium in connection with the breeding high grade Belgian draft horses, and Henry Lefebure of this review is fully sustaining the reputation which his father established in the importation and breeding of what is now claimed to be the most popular breed of draft horses in America. A native of Fairfax, Iowa, where he was born on the 10th of March, 1866, he is a son of Emil and Sidony (Inceas) Lefebure. The father was born in Neufvilles, Belgium, May 17, 1839. Coming to America in 1860, he made his way to Iowa City, Iowa, where he purchased forty acres of timber land and a few hogs, and during the period of the Civil war sold wood to the soldiers' wives and widows for ten dollars per load, while for his pork he received twelve cents per pound. By the close of the war, in 1865, he had saved enough money to purchase one hundred and sixty acres of land in Linn county, upon which he moved in 1866. From year to year, as he prospered, he added to his original holdings until he eventually became the owner of one thousand acres, constituting him one of the extensive landowners of this section. The year 1875 witnessed his embarkation in the live-stock business as a breeder of shorthorn cattle, while in 1888 he began to import and breed Belgian draft horses, being one of the first and later becoming one of the largest importers of horses in this country. He remained actively connected with this line of business for some years, subsequently retiring about 1902, while in May, 1906, he was called to his final rest.

Reared on the home farm, amid the busy environment of country life, Henry Lefebure acquired his early education in the district schools of that locality, remaining a student therein until eighteen years of age. Later he enjoyed the advantage of a six months' course at St. Joseph's College, at Dubuque, Iowa, and upon the retirement of his father in 1902 returned home, where he assisted in the conduct of the farm until the latter's death in 1906, when he came into possession of two hundred and forty-three acres of land, together with the large stock farm owned by his father. The balance of the property was divided between three brothers and two sisters of our subject. Mr. Lefebure has since acquired an additional tract of two hundred and sixty-three acres, so that he is now the owner of more than five hundred acres of land, to which has been given





the name of the Sunny Crest Stock Farm, known as the "home of the Belgians." He raises shorthorn cattle and also hogs, but his specialty is Belgian draft horses, which he not only imports but also breeds. In 1909 he made three trips to Belgium to buy horses, while his sales of that year amounted to one hundred and twenty-five horses, the prices ranging from twelve hundred to three thousand dollars per team, and he also sold about sixty head of fine cattle. Sunny Crest Stock Farm, the property of Henry Lefebure, is the home of the champion stud of Belgian draft horses of America as awarded at the St. Louis World's Fair and the birthplace of the champion mare of the St. Louis World's Fair, while it is the present home of one hundred and fifteen high-grade Belgian stallions and mares. The Belgian horse is recognized throughout European countries as the best on the continent, and the efforts of Mr. Lefebure in importing and raising this, the oldest, purest and most energetic breed of draft horse in existence, have been far-reaching in their effects, proving potent forces in raising the grade of stock in this section of the country. He is president of the American Association of Importers and Breeders of Belgian Draft Horses.

It was in January, 1894, in Fairfax, that Mr. Lefebure was united in marriage to Miss Marguerette Ferreter, a daughter of Richard Ferreter, who located in Linn county in 1845, following the occupation of farming here throughout his remaining years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lefebure have been born seven children, namely: Theodel, fifteen years of age, attending Sisters of Mercy St. Berchman's Seminary at Marion, Iowa; Regis, Emil, Charles and Richard, aged respectively fourteen, twelve, ten and eight years, all of whom are attending the same seminary; Armand, four years of age, and Henry, aged two years, both still under the parental roof. Of this number the five eldest children have all received diplomas for perfect handwriting.

The religious faith of Mr. Lefebure is indicated by his membership in the Catholic church, while he likewise belongs to the Knights of Columbus and also the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a republican in his political belief, but the activities of an exceedingly busy life have never permitted his participation in political affairs other than casting his vote at the polls. He is well known in financial circles here, however, occupying the office of vice president of the Fairfax Savings Bank, and is ranked among the most progressive and substantial of Linn county's citizens. The distinction which attaches to his name in stock circles throughout the country is well merited, for his efforts have ever been in the direction of improvement and advancement and have been attended by most excellent results.

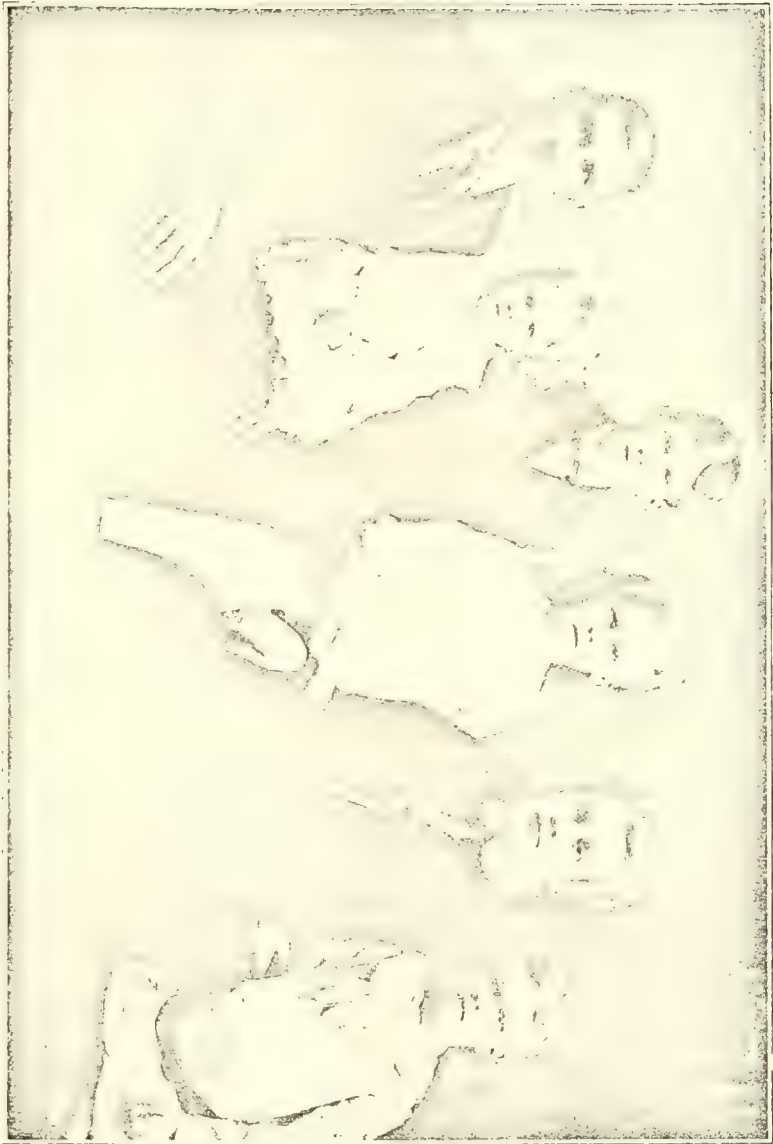
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#### CHARLES G. FLOYD

Charles G. Floyd, a prosperous and enterprising agriculturist of Washington township, owns and operates the farm on which his birth occurred — a tract of land comprising two hundred and twenty-seven acres. He was born on the 10th of August, 1867, his parents being J. L. and Mary Ann (Blackborn) Floyd, who were born, reared and married in Ohio. They came to this county in 1853, locating on the farm which is now in possession of their son Charles. Here they continued to reside throughout the remainder of their lives, the mother passing away on the 16th of September, 1893, while the father was called to his final rest on the 3d of March, 1904. Unto this worthy couple were born ten children, eight of whom are yet living.

Charles G. Floyd received the educational advantages afforded by the common schools and remained at home until he had attained his majority. In 1889 he purchased and located upon a farm in Emmet county, Iowa, devoting his attention





C. G. FLOYD AND FAMILY



to its further cultivation and improvement for ten years. On the expiration of that period he disposed of the property and in 1900 bought the old homestead farm in Washington township, where he has resided continuously since. The place comprises two hundred and twenty-seven acres of land and is lacking in none of the conveniences and accessories of a model farm of the twentieth century, for Mr. Floyd employs the most up-to-date methods in the conduct of his agricultural interests.

Mr. Floyd has been married twice. In 1896 he wedded Miss Christina M. Hanson, by whom he had two children, Clarence L. and Florence C. The wife and mother passed away within two years after her marriage, and in 1898 Mr. Floyd was joined in wedlock to her sister, Miss Sena J. Hanson. By his second marriage he likewise has two children, Ronald S. and Genevieve V.

In exercising his right of franchise Mr. Floyd supports the men and measures of the republican party. At the present time he is serving as a school director. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Lutheran church, with which his wife is also affiliated. Upright and honorable in all life's relations, he is highly respected and esteemed in the community where he resides.

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#### CHARLES H. CLARK

Charles H. Clark has spent his entire life in this county, for he was born on the farm on section 15, Maine township, where he now resides, April 21, 1858, and is a worthy representative of an honored, pioneer family, his parents being Warren and Mary (Ball) Clark. On the maternal side he is descended from a prominent old family that lived near Washington, D. C., being related to George Washington through the Ball family. His maternal grandfather was a clerk in the library department in the capitol for some years. The paternal grandfather, Joseph Clark, was a native of Connecticut and the founder of the family in this state.

Warren Clark, our subject's father, was born in Wayne county, New York, but was only seven years of age when brought by his parents to Linn county, Iowa, locating near Central City in 1839. At that time their nearest neighbors were twelve miles distant and Indian boys, with the exception of a younger brother, were the only playmates Warren Clark had. Until three years prior to his death he resided on the farm now owned and occupied by our subject, it having been given to him by the grandfather. His last years were spent on a place just west of Central City, where he died in 1898, and was laid to rest in the Clark cemetery. Throughout life he followed agricultural pursuits and by his ballot supported the republican party. On reaching manhood he was married in Maine township to Miss Mary Ball, a native of Indiana, who died December 16, 1859, and was also laid to rest in the Clark cemetery. Unto them were born two children: Nellie, now the wife of William H. Ward, a cement contractor at Boise, Idaho; and Charles H., whose name introduces this sketch. For his second wife the father married Miss Sarah Millendy, by whom he had three children: Abbie, the wife of A. J. Bowen, a merchant of Waubeek, Iowa; and Otis and Fred W., who are in South Dakota and Idaho respectively.

Reared to agricultural pursuits on his present farm, Charles H. Clark acquired his early education in the common schools of the locality and later attended the Lenox College at Hopkinton, Iowa, for seven terms. He began his business career as a merchant in partnership with Fred McLeod at Central City, where he remained for four years, and then went to Franklin county, Nebraska, where he followed farming for a similar length of time. The following year he engaged in agricultural pursuits near Central City and then returned to the old





home place, which he has since successfully operated. Here he owns one hundred and sixty acres of well improved and valuable land and gives his attention wholly to general farming.

In 1882 Mr. Clark married Miss Nettie Finley and they became the parents of five children, namely: Maggie, the wife of Arthur McLeod, a farmer of Maine township; Harry, who is employed as an automobile driver in Kansas City; Edna, a trained nurse in Dubuque; Nellie, deceased; and Warren, at home. Mr. Clark was again married in 1896, his second union being with Miss Henriette Clark, also a resident of Maine township, who was born in Cedar county, Iowa, and is a daughter of Henry and Mila (Donaldson) Clark. Her father was a native of Maine and came to Iowa at an early day.

The republican party always finds in Mr. Clark a staunch supporter of its principles and he is now serving his first term as township trustee. He has also filled the office of township clerk for eight years and has been a school director and secretary of the board, exerting quite a beneficial influence in public affairs. He supports every measure which he believes calculated to prove of public benefit and is an earnest and consistent member of the Freewill Baptist church, in which he is now serving as deacon. He is also a member of the Modern Brotherhood of America.

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#### CHARLES JOHNSON DEACON

Inscribed on the roll of Cedar Rapids' prominent lawyers is the name of Charles Johnson Deacon, whose connection with the bar has been characterized by an orderly progression indicative of his growing and expanding powers in a field calling for strong intellectuality and ready adaptability. He was born in Burlington county, New Jersey, May 21, 1849. His father, William Deacon, who died April 15, 1882, was captain of a trading boat in his early life and devoted his later years to farming. For some time prior to his death, which occurred at the home of his son Charles in Cedar Rapids, he lived retired. It was in the year 1853 that he settled in northern Indiana on the line of the Lake Shore Railroad and nearly a decade had passed ere he came to Linn county where he resided until his death. His wife bore the maiden name of Eliza Mason and she was born in Philadelphia. She was reared in New Jersey and her last days were spent in Linn county where she passed away August 3, 1878.

Charles Johnson Deacon pursued his education in the public schools and in Parson Seminary, now Coe College, and also in the State University of Iowa. He was fourteen years of age when he came to Linn county and after leaving school he was employed as clerk by the Iowa Land Company, but becoming imbued with a desire to practice law, he began preparation for the bar in the office and under the direction of Judge Isaac Cook and Judge N. M. Hubbard, who directed his reading until his admission to the bar, on the 21st of October, 1873. He remained with Judge Hubbard during the following winter as assistant in his law office and proving his ability in his chosen field, he was then admitted to partnership under the firm name of Hubbard & Deacon, which relation was maintained from March, 1874, until September, 1876. The firm then became known as Hubbard, Clark & Deacon and Mr. Deacon practiced in that association until January 1, 1879, when he withdrew. He was alone much of the time save for the year when C. S. Smith was his partner, until 1896 when he was joined by Mr. Good, and in June, 1908, A. H. Sargent and H. E. Spangler became members of the firm under the style of Deacon, Good, Sargent & Spangler. Mr. Deacon has been connected with much of the important litigation tried in the state courts and has won equal prominence as a counselor. His knowledge of the law is com-



prehensive, his application of legal principles correct, his analysis is keen and his deductions logical. He is today regarded as one of the most eminent lawyers of Cedar Rapids and has long been accorded a distinctive and representative clientage. Occasionally in the winter he manages to leave the city for a time, going to the south, where he entirely puts aside professional cares, forgetting, as he expresses it, that there is such a thing as a law book. Nevertheless, his devotion to his clients' interests is proverbial and in a profession where success depends entirely upon individual merit, he has been accorded that liberal clientage which places him among the substantial residents of his adopted city.

On the 28th of October, 1873, Mr. Deacon was united in marriage to Miss Sylvia Mansfield, a daughter of Dr. E. L. Mansfield, of Cedar Rapids. Their children are five in number: Lucy, now the wife of James W. Good, a member of congress from this district; Laura, the wife of John Fletcher, vice president of the Drovers Deposit National Bank of Chicago; William Mansfield, now engaged in the harness manufacturing business, being president and manager of the Cedar Rapids Saddlery Company; Mary, the wife of M. Merle Ogden, connected with the Cedar Rapids National Bank; and Margaret, who is at home with her parents at No. 1025 First avenue.

That Mr. Deacon's activities are not limited entirely to the practice of law is indicated in the fact he is a director of the American Trust & Savings Bank, is a trustee of Coe College, and is an active republican in politics, staunchly supporting the principles of the party. He belongs to the Presbyterian church and also holds membership in the Country Club. His fellow townsmen find him genial and approachable and his fellow practitioners recognize in him one of the strongest members of the bar in this section of the state. That his life has at all times commanded the high respect which is uniformly tendered him is indicated in the fact that many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood to the present time.

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#### PETER L. PEYTON

Among the native sons of Linn county who have made creditable records in business, winning success through intelligent and well directed effort, is numbered Peter L. Peyton, who was born in this county in October, 1869. His parents, John and Emma (Dilts) Peyton, were natives of Indiana and Pennsylvania respectively and came to Linn county in 1859. When a young man of twenty-two years Mr. Peyton purchased eighty acres of land, which he operated for ten years and then made another purchase of eighty acres, his possessions then embracing one hundred and sixty acres. He became a well known citizen of Linn county and passed away April 7, 1888.

Peter L. Peyton spent his youthful days in his parents' home and after completing his studies in the district schools continued to assist his father in his work on the farm until the latter's death, after which he remained with his mother. At the age of thirty-one years he established a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Effie Reece, the wedding taking place in November, 1901. Her parents, Abraham and Angeline (Betizer) Reece, were natives of Ohio.

Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Peyton began their domestic life in Buchanan county, where Mr. Peyton rented a tract of land of two hundred and forty acres. After a residence of eight years in that section of the state, he returned to Linn county in March, 1910, purchasing the homestead of one hundred and twenty acres in Spring Grove township. The land is in a good state of cultivation and gives promise of rich harvests in the autumn. Mr. Peyton has gained a reputation as an auctioneer not only in Linn county but in various other



sections of the state. In the year 1908 he cried one hundred and one sales, while in the following year he cried one hundred and five sales. He carries on this work in connection with his farming interests and in this line has become very successful.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Peyton have been born five children, three sons and two daughters: Sarah A., George W., Theodore J., Dora A., aged respectively seven, six, five and three years; and Charles W., one year old.

Mr. Peyton's political allegiance is unfalteringly given to the republican party. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen at Troy Mills, while his wife holds membership with the Methodist Episcopal church. His life has been a busy and useful one, his time being well spent, and thus his record reflects credit upon his native county, where the greater part of his life has been spent.

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### JOHN HAMILTON

The life record of John Hamilton covered the years between 1869 and April 16, 1905. He was born in Glasgow, Scotland, pursued his education in the schools of that city, and when nineteen years of age came to the United States in company with his mother, attracted by the better business opportunities of the new world. He was then employed by the Standard Oil Company for three years, after which he began business on his own account in Cedar Rapids.

He continued in business for himself for seven years, after which he went upon the road, selling goods. He spent three years as a traveling salesman, after which he made his way to Denver, Colorado, and entered the service of a brewing company as a traveling salesman.

Mr. Hamilton was married in Cedar Rapids to Miss Hattie Losey, who was born in Linn county, Iowa, and was a daughter of J. M. and Betsy (Colgrove) Losey, both of whom were natives of the Empire state. Removing westward they settled in Linn county, Iowa, in 1867, and the father purchased land here and turned his attention to farming which he followed for a number of years with substantial and gratifying success. He is now living a retired life, making his home in Fairfax, Iowa, but his wife is now deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton have been born four children, Hazel S., Margaret E., William M. and Bessie May, all of whom are yet living and making their home with their mother.

The death of Mr. Hamilton occurred at Fort Collins, Colorado, on the 16th of April, 1905. He had never had occasion to regret his determination to make his home in the new world, for he here found good business opportunities and gradually he advanced along substantial lines that enabled him to provide a comfortable living for his family and to enjoy many of the pleasures of life which money secures.

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### W. W. BAKER

W. W. Baker spent the last years of his life in honorable retirement in Cedar Rapids and passed away at a ripe old age in this city, where he had enjoyed the respect and good will of all with whom he had come in contact. A native of the state of New York, he was born in Plattsburg, in 1829, and there pursued his education and resided until he reached his majority. At that time he went to New York city, where he secured employment in a wholesale dry-goods house, with which he was connected for two years. On the expiration of that period he came to Freeport, Illinois, where he engaged in the grain commission business until after the commencement of the Civil war. Later he turned his attention





to the pork packing business, in which he continued for eight years with substantial and gratifying success, building up an enterprise of large and profitable proportions. At the end of that time he sold out and removed to Cedar Rapids, where he resided until his demise.

Mr. Baker was married in 1858, in Portland, Maine, to Miss Adalina Brown Purinton, a daughter of Amos and Abigail (Brown) Purinton, the former a native of the Pine Tree state and the latter of New Hampshire. Their family number five children, including Mrs. Baker, who by her marriage became the mother of eight children, namely: W. DeWalt, living at home; Chatta W. and Clifford, both deceased; Bertha, now Mrs. Richard Smith, of Pasadena, California; Clinton, deceased; Louis P., who is a candy maker and resides with his mother; F. W. C., who is located in Colorado City, Colorado; and Robert A., who is living in Butte, Montana. In her early womanhood Mrs. Baker engaged in teaching school and as the years have gone by reading has kept her in touch with the important current events.

The death of Mr. Baker occurred in June, 1904, and was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, for he had enjoyed the respect of business men, the confidence of his associates and the high regard of all with whom he came in contact during the period of his residence in Cedar Rapids.

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#### TOBE HUSMANN

Tobe Husmann, who owns and operates a fine farm in Jackson township, claims Germany as the land of his birth, his natal day being January 7, 1868. His parents were Harm G. and Katharina Husmann, also natives of the fatherland, where they continued to make their home until 1870, which year witnessed their arrival in America. They first located in Illinois where they spent about a year and a half and then came to Iowa, the father buying two hundred and forty acres of land in Jones county, on which they lived until 1900. He then sold that property and purchased an eighty-acre tract in Jackson township, Linn county, where he and his wife are still living with our subject. They are well known and highly respected citizens of this community and are the parents of ten children, namely: Hattie, now the wife of Andrew Caspers of Castle Grove, Jones county, Iowa; Mary, the wife of Henry Hedden of Jones county; Tobe of this review; Margaret, also a resident of Jones county; John and Lena, twins, the former deceased and the latter the wife of John Poppe of Jackson township, this county; Minnie, deceased; Minnie and Katharina, twins, the former also deceased and the latter the wife of Herman Hahn of Jones county, Iowa; and Anna, the wife of Carl Wendt of Delaware county, Iowa.

Tobe Husmann was only three years of age when brought by his parents to the United States and was reared in much the usual manner of farm boys, receiving a thorough instruction in agricultural pursuits and a good practical education in the country schools. On the 20th of January, 1897, he married Miss Martha E. Prabel, who was also born in Germany in 1879, a daughter of Bernhart and Carolina F. (Van Heiden) Prabel, also natives of Germany. Her mother died in 1899 but her father is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Husmann have become the parents of seven children, as follows: Herman B. C.; Bernhart J. W.; John Tobe; Anna K. L.; one who died in infancy; Margaret M. M.; and Reinhart A. A.

Throughout his active business life Mr. Husmann has always followed farming and in his operations has met with good success, becoming the owner of a well improved farm of two hundred and sixty-six and one-half acres in Jackson township. He makes a specialty of dairying and hog raising and has found this



business quite profitable. He possesses the German characteristics of thrift and industry and to these may be attributed much of his success. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church and are people of prominence in the community where they reside.

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### WALKER SPITZER

Energy and perseverance are dominant characteristics in the life of Walker Spitzer, who is operating one hundred and twenty acres of land in Buffalo township. Mr. Spitzer is a native of Ohio, born on the 18th of May, 1861, and is one of a family of four children whose parents were Daniel and Katherine (Dubbs) Spitzer. The parents were both natives of Pennsylvania and in 1857 sought a home in Iowa, their destination being Linn county. They located on a farm which the father operated for fifteen years. He then sold that tract and purchased three hundred and twenty acres in Buffalo township, spending the last eleven years of his life thereon. He made farming his life work and passed away on the homestead January 18, 1892. The mother lives with her children on the farm which was left her by her husband.

Walker Spitzer has spent his entire life in Linn county and was trained by his father in the work of the farm, while his education was acquired in the district schools. Following the death of his father he purchased of the other heirs one hundred and twenty acres of the home farm and since that time has been identified with its development and improvement. He carries on general farming, using the latest improved machinery to facilitate his labors, which, combined with his thorough knowledge of agriculture in all its phases, brings him good annual returns. He raises good grades of cattle and hogs and likewise keeps Percheron Norman horses, having four head of thoroughbreds on his farm at this writing.

Mr. Spitzer was married in 1904 to Miss Clara Sawyer, a daughter of James and Almira (Sawyer) Sawyer, the former a native of Massachusetts and the latter of Maine. Upon their removal to Iowa they settled on a farm in Linn county and the father was here identified with farming until his death, which occurred in 1890. His wife survived a number of years and departed this life in 1908. Their family numbered four children.

Mr. Spitzer gives his political support to the republican party but has never taken an active part in public affairs. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church and his daily conduct and dealings with his fellowmen harmonize with his professions.

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### C. ARTHUR STARR

One of the energetic citizens of Spring Grove township — and they are many in number — is C. Arthur Starr, who with his brother Robert, is operating the Starr homestead, where both have spent the past quarter of a century. The Starr family was among the earlier settlers of Iowa, John Starr, the father, having come to Linn county in 1870. He and his wife, Sarah, are natives of England. Quite early in life they came to the United States, John Starr in 1848, and his wife some time later. They first located in New York, where they were married and lived for several years. They came to Linn county, Iowa, as before stated, in 1870, and it was this same year, on January 28, that C. Arthur Starr was born. The family were living upon a forty-acre tract at the time of his birth and for fifteen years they resided in the same house and cultivated the small



farm. Then they sold that place and bought ninety-five acres in Spring Grove township, where they have since resided.

It was in the year 1885 that the Starrs bought their present home in Spring Grove township, and at that time the place, while fertile of field and containing sufficient buildings and equipment to enable the family to live, yet was only slightly improved. Now all is changed. Fields have been drained and systematically laid out; new cattle and grain sheds, barns and a house have been built, while special equipment for the handling and feeding of stock has been added, among the more recent improvements being a splendid fifty-foot steel-tower wind-mill.

These improvements are the result of careful work upon the part of the father, assisted by his sons C. Arthur and Robert, both of whom are practical farmers, skilled in the conduct of general farm work and stock. Arthur Starr's education was received in the district schools, and since that time he has followed farming exclusively. In politics Mr. Starr is a republican, while the religious views of the family find expression in their attendance at the Methodist church.

He is one of the most practical farmers of his township, overcoming obstacles by perseverance and diligence. He is one of the younger agriculturists of the community but already stands high in the opinions of his fellowmen.

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#### EDWARD J. WEIS

A finely improved farm of two hundred acres, located in Clinton township, Linn county, is the present home of Edward J. Weis, who is successfully carrying on his work as a farmer. He was born in Saxony, Germany, August 14, 1857, a son of Gottlieb and Libby Weis. The father was likewise a native of Saxony, born in 1821. He lived in the land of his nativity until after his marriage, when in 1862, he came to America, making his way from New York to Iowa City by rail, and from the latter city he traveled by wagon to a point east of Cedar Rapids and engaged in farming in Rapids township. He resided in that district until 1887, during which time he was identified with farm work, and then put aside his business cares, living retired until his death in 1889.

Edward J. Weis was a little lad of five years at the time he was brought by his parents to America. He received good educational advantages, attending the public schools of Cedar Rapids until he was seventeen years of age. He then took up the work of farming on the home place, remaining with his father until the winter of 1887. At that time he came to Clinton township and purchased one hundred acres of land on section 17. In 1897 he increased his acreage by an additional purchase of forty acres and in 1904 he bought eighty acres more but has since disposed of twenty acres, so that his possessions now embrace two hundred acres. He utilizes eighty acres in the production of corn, forty-two acres in raising oats, while fourteen acres is devoted to hay and the balance is used for pasture, for he keeps cattle, horses and hogs. Mr. Weis has laid thirteen hundred rods of tile on his land, which is thus afforded good drainage and is made very productive. On the place stands a good country residence, substantial barn and outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock, while everything about the farm is kept in excellent condition. He is systematic and methodical in carrying on his business affairs and is meeting with gratifying success.

In Cedar Rapids, on the 12th of January, 1887, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Weis and Miss Tracey Doskocil, a daughter of Frank and Frances Doskocil, in whose family were five children, the others being John and Louis, both residents of Johnson county, Iowa; Frank, of Ashton, South Dakota; and Philomena, also a resident of Johnson county, Iowa. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Weis





has been blessed with five daughters and three sons: Bettie Philomena, Lewis Henry, Bertha Louisa, Viola Frances, Edward John, Tracey Elizabeth, Henry Julius and Minnie Ella. All are at home and are students in the district schools.

In politics Mr. Weis is a republican, while in religious faith he is a Lutheran. For the past year he has served as trustee of Clinton township and discharges his duties in a most capable and efficient manner. Though born across the water, he is thoroughly American in thought and feeling and is patriotic and sincere in his love for the stars and stripes. His career is identified with the history of Linn county, where he has acquired a competence and where he is an honored and respected citizen.

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### JAY J. MILLS

Jay J. Mills, who owns and operates a well improved farm of one hundred acres in Jackson township, Linn county, is one of the progressive and enterprising farmers of this section of the state. Born in Jackson township, May 19, 1870, he is a son of Mahlon and Fannie (Joslyn) Mills, mention of whom is made in connection with the sketch of Charles R. Mills on another page of this work.

Jay J. Mills spent the period of his boyhood and youth under the parental roof and acquired his education in the common schools. The year that he attained his majority he began an independent business career as a farmer, renting land belonging to an aunt, Julia Mills. Subsequently he farmed the homestead for two years, following the death of his father, and later for a similar period operated the same in partnership with his brother Charles R. In the meantime he carefully saved his money and in due time purchased ninety-two acres of land, located north of Paris, to which he removed in 1896. Ten years later he disposed of that property and purchased his present tract of one hundred acres, in Jackson township. He carries on general farming to some extent, but finds a profitable source of revenue in breeding Jersey and polled Durham cattle, his stock being of good grades. Mr. Mills is a stockholder in the Wapsie Valley Fair Association and for seven years served on the board of directors.

On the 26th of December, 1894, occurred the marriage of Mr. Mills and Miss Belle Morris, of Wigville, Connecticut, and their union has been blessed with four children, two sons and two daughters, Dorothy P., Ralph M., Wallace Y. and Anna L.

In politics Mr. Mills is a republican, while his fraternal relations connect him with the Modern Woodmen of America. Both he and his wife are members of the Congregational church. He has spent his entire life in Linn county and is therefore widely and favorably known, while the capable management of his business affairs has brought him success.

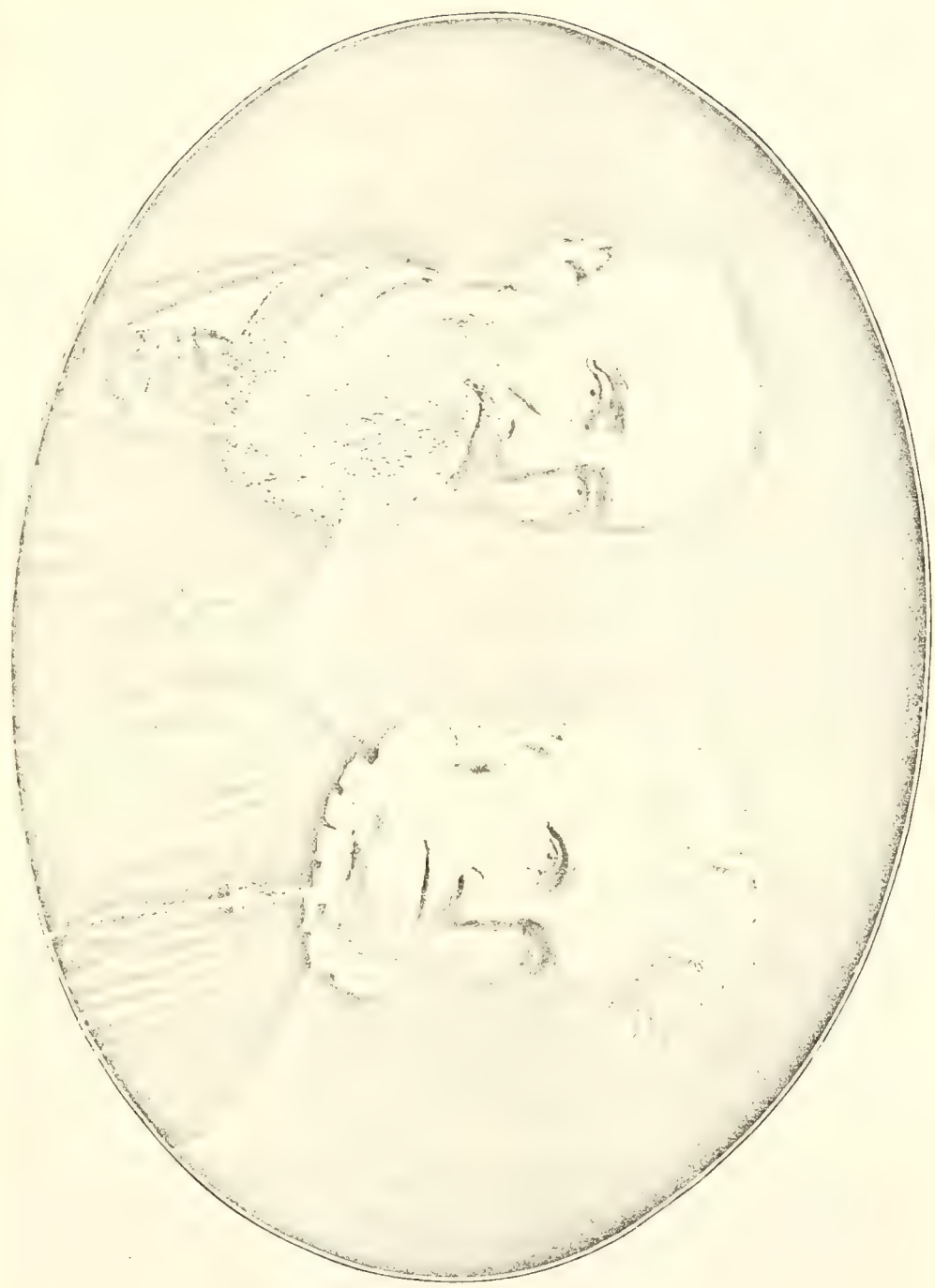
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### S. H. HARTLEY

Among the citizens of Cedar Rapids who are now living retired after many years of active and honorable connection with business interests is numbered S. H. Hartley, who for a long period was one of the enterprising and progressive farmers of Linn county. He was also engaged in speculative building and is still the owner of much valuable property here. He was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in December, 1827, and has therefore reached the venerable age of eighty-two years. His parents, George and Rebecca Hartley, were both natives of Pennsylvania and at an early day in the development of Ohio, removed to that



THE END OF THE JOURNEY





state. Later they continued their westward journey to Illinois, settling in Jersey county, where they lived for about eleven years. On the expiration of that period they removed to Lee county, Iowa, and established their home near Montrose. On selling out there, they returned to La Salle county, Illinois, where they resided for a time after which they became residents of Cedar Rapids, where they spent their remaining days. In their family were eleven children, of whom five are yet living.

S. H. Hartley accompanied his parents on their various removals through the period of his boyhood and youth and secured his education in the public schools. He left home when nineteen years of age and went to St. Louis to learn the cabinet-maker's trade at which he worked for three years. He afterward purchased a farm in Linn county, Iowa, and carried on general agricultural pursuits until 1901, bringing his fields under a high state of cultivation and making his place a valuable farming property. At length he retired from active business life and is now living in Cedar Rapids in the enjoyment of a well earned and deserved rest. He has also contributed much to the improvement of the city, and added to his own income, by the erection of forty residences here. He still owns seven fine properties from which he derives a gratifying annual rental.

Mr. Hartley was married a second time, in 1901, to Mrs. Susan M. Smith, who was born in Maryland and came to Linn county in 1860, where she has resided continuously since. He has long given his political allegiance to the republican party and has ever kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day, but has never sought nor desired public office. He has always preferred to give his undivided time and attention to his business interests and in their conduct has shown good judgment and keen insight. His investments have been judiciously made and have largely supplemented his income derived from his farming operations. His has been a useful, active and well spent life and he justly merits the success which has crowned his efforts.

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#### GEORGE B. BRUNER

George B. Bruner, a partner in one of the leading marble cutting establishments of Cedar Rapids, in which connection an extensive and gratifying business has been built up, resulting from the capability and business enterprise of the partners, is numbered among Iowa's native sons, his birth having occurred in Clinton on the 6th of January, 1864. His father, Jacob Bruner, was born at Germantown, Pennsylvania, and became one of the early residents of Iowa. He was a stationary engineer and for many years was employed as engineer by the Star Wagon Manufacturing Company, of this city, being long known as a representative of industrial interests here. He died on the 1st of March, 1910, and is still survived by his widow, Mrs. Emma (Butulph) Bruner, who was born in Columbus, Ohio.

The removal of the family from Clinton to Cedar Rapids enabled George B. Bruner to pursue his education in the public schools of the latter city, but at an early age he put aside his text-books to provide for his own support, securing employment with the Star Wagon Manufacturing Company, with which he was connected for three years. He then turned his attention to another field, learning the trade of marble cutting, to which he has now devoted his energies for twenty-seven years. He then entered into partnership with E. W. Hoffman and for ten years the firm of Bruner & Hoffman has conducted a growing business. They are accorded a liberal patronage and the excellence of their work is indicated in the fine monuments of artistic design which are seen in the cemeteries of eastern and central Iowa which have come from their workshop.





In 1888 Mr. Bruner was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Sweet, of this city, and they have three children, Grace, Ethel and Phillis, all of whom are attending the city schools. Mr. Bruner is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity, the Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Woodmen of the World. He votes with the republican party upon questions of national importance, but does not regard party ties at elections where the only point that should be considered is the capability of the candidate for the discharge of business duties connected with the offices. He is public spirited in his support of all progressive movements for the benefit of the city, but has never sought to figure prominently in any public light aside from his business and, concentrating his time and energies upon the development of the trade, he is now at the head of one of the important industrial concerns of Cedar Rapids.

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### JOHN HRUSKA

John Hruska follows farming on a tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres, located on section 31, College township, which he owns. He is a native of that township, born April 16, 1876, and is the fourth son of Joseph and Annie (Chimbuiek) Hruska. The father was born in Bohemia in 1850 and came to Linn county in 1868, where he became identified with agricultural pursuits, being thus engaged until the time of his death in 1906. The mother is still living and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Joe Lineck.

John Hruska attended the public schools until the age of sixteen years and remained with his father until he had reached the age of twenty-four. He then purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which he eventually disposed of and invested his money in one hundred and sixty acres, which is his present home on section 31, College township. He devotes fifty acres to the raising of corn, while the remainder of his acreage is planted to various cereals. He also raises stock to a considerable extent and in his work is meeting with gratifying success.

Mr. Hruska was married January 31, 1899, the lady of his choice being Miss Stella Sousek, a daughter of Joseph and Mary Sousek, who are well-to-do farming people of Schuyler, Nebraska, and natives of Bohemia. By her marriage Mrs. Hruska has become the mother of two sons: Robert J., who was born December 24, 1902; and Joseph E., born September 18, 1904.

In politics Mr. Hruska is independent, voting for the men whom he deems best qualified for office, regardless of party ties. He belongs to Linton Camp, No. 145, M. W. A., at Cedar Rapids; also to Jan Hus Lodge, No. 51, I. O. O. F., at Cedar Rapids. His success is the result of his own energy, labor and perseverance and it is therefore well deserved.

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### NATHANIEL BOURNE

Nathaniel Bourne was for more than a quarter of a century a resident of Cedar Rapids and deep and widespread regret was felt at the time of his demise by many who had come to know and to esteem him for his sterling traits of character. A native of New England, he was born in Massachusetts in 1833 and was a son of Isreal and Elizabeth (Jenkins) Bourne, who were likewise natives of the old Bay state. The mother died in Massachusetts in 1841 and in 1856 the father removed westward to Iowa, where he continued to reside until called to his final rest.



Nathaniel Bourne was reared and educated in New England and was married in Oswego county, New York, in 1858, when about twenty-five years of age, to Miss Huldah Worth, a daughter of Thomas R. and Mary (Bourne) Worth. She was born in that state in 1827. Immediately after their marriage the young couple came to Iowa, settling in Dubuque county, where they lived for three years. They then removed to Linn county, taking up their abode in Cedar Rapids, where Mr. Bourne continued to make his home until his death, which occurred December 27, 1889. Throughout that period he carried on operations as a builder and contractor and in later years was active in real-estate interests.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bourne were born four children: Mary W., now the wife of James Wiley, a resident of Cedar Rapids; Silas D., deceased; Cora F., who is living with her mother; and Nathaniel P., also a resident of Cedar Rapids.

Mrs. Bourne is now in her eighty-third year but is a remarkably well preserved woman, still active and capable of attending to her business affairs. Her home is at No. 813 Fourth avenue. She has always endeavored to make the golden rule the motive power of her life, doing unto others as she would have them do unto her, and is a lady beloved by everybody. She receives not only the veneration and respect which should be accorded to one of her years, but also the warmer and deeper feeling of sincere and earnest friendship which has been won by a well spent life, a kindly spirit and friendly relations to others. She attends the First Presbyterian church, as did her husband, who was a very charitable man, contributing liberally to all worthy enterprises. In politics he was a republican.

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#### W. P. POWELL

W. P. Powell, manager at Cedar Rapids for the Aetna Life Insurance Company of Hartford, Connecticut, and with business interests also in Florida, is numbered among the native sons of Iowa and possesses the enterprising spirit characteristic of the middle west. His birth occurred in Iowa City, April 12, 1874. His father, George Powell, was a native of Philadelphia and went to Iowa City in the early '50s. There with his brother John Powell he engaged in the general merchandise and packing business, beginning that work before the period of railroad transportation. Rafts were used to transport the product to St. Louis. Extending his efforts into other fields, Mr. Powell became a director in the Johnson County Savings Bank and also had other interests. In fact, he was a very prominent, respected and representative citizen, and his labors constituted an important element in the business development and growth of the city. He retired in 1874 and died ten years later, at the age of seventy-four years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Patton, was a native of Uniontown, Pennsylvania, and now resides in Cedar Rapids.

W. P. Powell was educated in the Iowa City schools, continuing his course to his graduation from the high school and later entered the Iowa State University, from which he was graduated with the class of 1895, having pursued a special course in civil engineering. He then spent one year on railroad work in Mexico and later went to Saint Petersburg, Florida, where he engaged in merchandising. The establishment which he founded has grown to large proportions and has been incorporated under the name of the Saint Petersburg Hardware Company, of which Mr. Powell is still the president. He came to Cedar Rapids in 1901 to enter the insurance field in connection with C. F. Bishop, the firm of Bishop & Powell existing for two years. He next became manager of northern and eastern Iowa for the Aetna Life Insurance Company of Hartford, Connecticut, and under his management the business at this point has increased rapidly. He is indus-



trious and determined, carrying forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes, and his enterprise brooks no obstacles that can be overcome by diligent effort.

In 1896 Mr. Powell was married to Miss Louise Alford, of Waterloo, Iowa, and unto them have been born two daughters, Margaret and Eleanor. Mr. Powell is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Country Club and the Commercial Club. During the period of his residence in Cedar Rapids he has shown himself thoroughly in touch with the varied interests which are elements in its upbuilding and his influence is always found on the side of right and progress.

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### JOHN WUNDERLICH

John Wunderlich has been a resident of Cedar Rapids since 1908, when he came to this city to accept the position of secretary of the Commercial Club. He has since been a popular representative of the organization in this connection and has won many friends during the period of his residence here. He was born in Dubuque, Iowa, May 20, 1870, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Reid) Wunderlich, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Pennsylvania.

Reared in his native city, he pursued his education in the public schools of Dubuque and entered business life in connection with railway interests, being connected with the passenger department of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad for four years. He was afterward with the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad for thirteen years in various branches of the passenger department and later became general manager of the Chicago, Anamosa & Northern Railroad, thus serving for four years. He then came to Cedar Rapids in August, 1908, to accept the secretaryship of the Commercial Club, which had need of an experienced railroad man to manage their freight traffic bureau, Mr. Wunderlich being chosen as possessing all the necessary qualifications. That no mistake was made is already evidenced by results. Much has also been done along industrial lines and in matters of securing conventions for Cedar Rapids. He recognizes the extent and importance of the duties that devolve upon him and in this connection has instituted and executed many plans which have been of material benefit to the city as the representative of the Commercial Club.

On the 23d of June, 1896, Mr. Wunderlich was married to Miss Caroline Meyer, a native of Dubuque, and they have one daughter, Marian, and one son, John Bernard. Mr. Wunderlich belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Columbus, the Improved Order of Red Men and other fraternal organizations. In addition to his excellent business qualifications, which have been developed through long years of association with railway interests, he possesses a social, genial nature, which makes him popular with the club members and wins him friends wherever he goes.

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### WILLIAM W. REECE

A worthy representative of the agricultural interests of Linn county is William W. Reece, owner of one hundred and sixty-four acres of fine land in Spring Grove township. The place he lives upon is the old Reece homestead where he was born and where he has spent the greater portion of his life. He has had charge of the farm since he was twenty-one years old and has improved it to such an extent as to make it one of the most valuable pieces of property in the district.





A son of Henry and Lucretia (Nash) Reece, William W. Reece was born July 28, 1868, just a few years after his parents settled upon the homestead in Linn county. Henry Reece was a native of Ohio, while his wife was a Pennsylvanian by birth, though she had lived for some time in Ohio. The father came to Iowa in his early manhood, being twenty-five years old when he settled in Linn county. He purchased eighty acres of land in Spring Grove township and here farmed for the greater portion of his life, but turned over the farm to his son, who later secured the entire estate, when the latter became of age. Sometime later in life Henry Reece purchased thirty acres of timber land in Spring Grove township and his entire holdings then amounted to one hundred and twenty acres. This farm was nicely improved by the father, who continued to operate it for twenty-six years. Then William W. Reece took charge of the place and has continued its cultivation. The father died July 25, 1901, and the mother passed away September 13, 1908.

Under the management and care of William W. Reece the farm has been greatly improved. He has built a fine new barn, forty-four by sixty-eight feet, erected a steel windmill and granary, and has brought the entire place to a high point of perfection, it having greatly increased in value as a result of his enterprise.

Mr. Reece was united in marriage to Miss Bessie E. Shaffer, a daughter of Elias and Charlotte Shaffer, of Linn county, in July, 1888. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania and came to Iowa in 1876, locating in Linn county. There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Reece six children, namely: Lottie, born in 1889, who is now married and living in Linn county; Charles P., born in 1892, who is at home; Curtis H., who was born in 1894, and is living with his parents; Clyde E., who died in 1898; Dale O., born in 1902, and Carl H., born in 1906, both at home.

In his political beliefs Mr. Reece finds expression in national affairs in the republican party, though he is an independent voter when it comes to local matters. He has held the office of school director for a number of years and at the present time is school treasurer. Fraternally he is identified with Troy Lodge, No. 299, I. O. O. F., of Troy Mills, Iowa; and of Mecca Lodge, No. 523, A. F. & A. M., of Coggon, Iowa. His wife is a member of the Methodist Protestant church. The success which Mr. Reece has attained is the result of persistent effort and rigid honesty in all his affairs.

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## LOUIS VISHA

Cooperation is the rule in business and the source of all success. That institution is most prosperous which has a well organized corps of officers and employes, bending every energy to the expansion of the business in such a manner that the labors of one supplement and promote the efforts of another. Louis Visha is now numbered with those who are contributing to the growth of the Cedar Rapids National Bank, in which he has risen from the position of messenger boy to that of assistant cashier. He was born in this city on the 8th of March, 1880. His father, Joseph Visha, was a native of Bohemia and came to the United States in 1865, settling in New York city, where he remained for two years. In 1867 he removed to Cedar Rapids, where he resided until the time of his death in 1886, being numbered among its most respected and worthy citizens. He wedded Mary Wilimek, also a native of Bohemia. They were married in New York City and soon afterward came west, establishing their home in Cedar Rap-



ids. Mrs. Visha survived her husband for many years, departing this life on the 23d of March, 1909.

Reared under the parental roof, Louis Visha acquired a public school education and started upon his business career at the age of sixteen, when he entered the employ of the Cedar Rapids National Bank in the capacity of messenger. He diligently applied himself to the mastery of the tasks assigned him and gradually worked his way upward by reason of his fidelity and industry until, on the 1st of February, 1908, he was appointed to the responsible position of assistant cashier. He has thoroughly mastered the banking business in every department with which he has been connected and his usefulness has thus been augmented and the scope of his activities increased.

On the 18th of August, 1908, Mr. Visha was married to Miss Rose M. Petska, of Cedar Rapids. Mr. Visha is a member of the Masonic fraternity, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Iowa Legion of Honor and Z. C. B. J., No. 7. He is also a member of the Commercial and Country Clubs. His record has at all times been most creditable and his advancement is well merited.

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### CHARLES R. MILLS

A tract of land of three hundred acres lying in Jackson township, is the property of Charles R. Mills, it being the old homestead. The fields are well tilled and in spring give promise of rich harvests to be gathered in the autumn, while in the pastures and feed lots are good grades of stock and it is evident to the passerby that the farm work is carried on along progressive lines and that good results are being obtained.

It was on this farm that the birth of Charles R. Mills occurred June 28, 1876, and he is a son of Mahlon and Fannie (Joslyn) Mills, natives of Connecticut and Illinois respectively. They came to Linn county with their respective parents, the father arriving about the year 1851, while the mother came about 1860. It was in Linn county that they were married about 1863 and soon afterward they located on the farm which is now the home of our subject. As time passed and Mr. Mills prospered in his work he invested his capital in more land until his holdings embraced three hundred acres of rich and valuable property. Here he carried on farming until the time of his death in 1892, becoming one of the prominent and substantial citizens of this section of the state. In politics he was a republican, giving stanch support to the party and the principles it represented. Mrs. Mills survived until 1903, when she, too, was called to the home beyond.

Charles R. Mills was reared on the home farm and acquired his literary education in the common schools, while later he took a business course in a college at Cedar Rapids. He was but fifteen years of age at the time of his father's demise and he then gave to his three older brothers assistance on the home place and later he and his brother Jay operated the farm as partners for about two years. The latter then purchased a farm of his own, while Charles R. assumed entire management of the home place during the succeeding four years. It was about that time that the death of the mother occurred and he then purchased the interest of the other heirs and is now the owner of the farm, embracing three hundred acres in Jackson township. He has made some improvements on the place, which in its entirety is an exponent of modern progress along agricultural lines. He possesses marked ability in carrying on his business affairs and his labors are being annually rewarded in good harvests.

In 1900 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Mills and Miss Leila Henderson, a daughter of Thomas Henderson, of Jackson township. Four sons and one



daughter grace the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mills, Thomas M., Lloyd, Perry, Grace and Willis F.

Following in the political footsteps of his father, Mr. Mills gives his support to the republican party. He has been called by his fellow townsmen to fill some public offices, having served one term as assessor of Jackson township, while at the present time he is serving on the board of trustees. He is a valued member of the Modern Woodmen camp, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church, to which his wife also belongs. He has aided materially in the development and progress of this section of the state, gives his support to every measure which he deems will benefit the county along intellectual, material, political and social lines, and at the same time has so carefully directed his business affairs that he is now numbered among the men of Jackson township who are enjoying a comfortable competence.

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### GEORGE A. STRONG

In the years of an active business career George A. Strong has devoted his time and attention to general farming and stock-raising and is now located in Marion township, where he owns and cultivates two hundred acres of finely improved land. His birth occurred in Linn county, Iowa, on the 16th of January, 1870, his parents being Henry G. and Christina (Lutz) Strong.

His paternal grandfather, Luman M. Strong, who was born in Vermont in 1806, journeyed westward in 1830 and took up his abode in Ohio. Six years later he removed still further westward, crossing the Mississippi river and locating in Muscatine county, Iowa, where he remained for three years. On the expiration of that period, in 1839, he came to Linn county and here soon became recognized as a prominent and leading citizen. He acted as the first postmaster of Marion under President Van Buren and also conducted the first hotel at that place. He was likewise sent as a delegate to the first constitutional convention of the state of Iowa, acted as one of the first commissioners of Linn county and served in the legislature for one term. Subsequently he removed to Wisconsin, where he was likewise elected to the state legislature and was also chosen county judge. He belonged to the Masonic fraternity and was a worthy exemplar of the teachings of the craft. His demise occurred in 1870.

Henry G. Strong, the father of our subject, was born in Ohio and came to this state in 1856, settling in Butler county, where he resided for two years. In 1868 he took up his abode on a tract of eighty acres which he had purchased in Linn county, making his home thereon until 1885, when he disposed of the property. He then bought another tract of similar size near Marion and operated that farm for ten years, at the end of which time he sold the place. His next purchase was a farm of eighty acres near Alburnett, which he disposed of in 1895. In that year he invested in city property in Cedar Rapids and Kenwood and still owns the same. On the 6th of February, 1860, he was united in marriage to Miss Christina Lutz, a daughter of Barnett Lutz, of Kenwood Park, who came to this county in 1839 and entered one hundred and sixty acres of government land, making his home thereon until his death, which occurred in 1902. Kenwood Park was laid out upon his land. Mrs. Strong passed away in February, 1910, and her husband now lives with their son George. The period of his residence in this county now covers more than a half century and he is well known and highly esteemed within its borders. Unto him and his wife were born four children, as follows: Charles, who is deceased; Alice A., the wife of S. H. Jones, of California; Carrie M., who is the wife of J. L. Drury and resides in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; and George A., of this review.





The last named attended the common schools in the acquirement of an education and when he had attained his majority took charge of the home farm, being actively engaged in its operation until the time of his marriage in 1895. He now owns two hundred acres of land adjoining the city of Marion and here successfully carries on his farming interests, also devoting considerable attention to the feeding of cattle and hogs. The place is supplied with all modern equipments and improvements that facilitate farm work and add to the comforts and conveniences of life in a rural community and its owner is widely recognized as a most substantial and progressive citizen.

As a companion and helpmate on the journey of life Mr. Strong chose Miss Nettie L. Bowman, a daughter of Benjamin and Eliza (Wilson) Bowman, who were natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio respectively. Mrs. Strong was one of a family of five children and by her marriage has become the mother of two, Dale B. and Walter B. Both Mr. and Mrs. Strong are devoted members of the Presbyterian church, the teachings of which they exemplify in their daily lives. Mr. Strong has spent his entire life in this county and has made substantial advancement in the line of agriculture, being now one of the representative young farmers of this part of the state.

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#### REV. FLORIAN SVRDLIK

Rev. Florian Svrulik, whose labors are proving a most effective force in promoting Catholic interests in Cedar Rapids, is now pastor of St. Wenceslaus church. He was born in Moravia in 1860, and having determined to devote his life to the priesthood, was educated in the Theological Institute at Olmutz, Moravia. He was ordained to holy orders in 1884 by Cardinal Fuerstenberg at Olmutz and entered upon the work of the priesthood at Vsetin, where he remained for two years. He was then assigned to the churches at Hradisko and Mirov, where he continued for six years at each place.

In 1899 he came to the United States and was first assigned to the pastorate of the Catholic church at Oxford Junction, Iowa, where he continued for nine months. In August, 1899, he came to Cedar Rapids to take charge of St. Wenceslaus church and parish and during his pastorate the beautiful new church building has been erected. It was built in 1904 and is an ornament to the city. Under the guidance of Father Svrulik the work of the church has been carefully organized and promoted and he has also been very active along educational lines, the schools under his charge doing good work among the children of his congregation. The church has increased in numerical strength and the various societies of the church are in good working condition.

Father Svrulik is a courteous gentleman, of liberal education, genial in manner and popular with all who know him and his zeal and devotion to the cause are constituting strong elements in the growth of his parish.

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#### B. L. SHELDON, M. D.

Among the younger physicians of Cedar Rapids, whose ability is attested in the liberal patronage extended him, is Dr. B. L. Sheldon, whose study in this country and abroad well qualifies him for the onerous duties which devolve upon him. He was born on a farm near Perry Center, New York, October 26, 1877. His father, William E. Sheldon, was a native of Massachusetts and a representative of an old family of that state. At the time of the Civil war he responded to





DR. B. L. SHELDON



the country's call, serving with an Indiana regiment in defense of the Union cause for two years. He married Anna Lillibridge, a native of the state of New York, and in 1892 came with his family to Cedar Rapids, where he has since resided, being a well known representative of commercial interests in this city.

Dr. Sheldon, an only child, was educated in the public schools of Buffalo and of Cedar Rapids, being graduated from the high school of the latter city in the class of 1895. Determining to devote his life to a professional career and believing that he would find the practice of medicine congenial, he entered the Iowa State University, where he devoted two years to the scientific course and two years to the study of medicine. He afterward matriculated in Rush Medical College of Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1902. He put his theoretical knowledge to the practical test in two years' hospital work, being connected with the Hospital of St. Anthony of Padua. He then entered upon the private practice of medicine in Cedar Rapids and was associated with Dr. Reimer for two years. Later he went to Europe and spent two years in study in Vienna, London and Berlin under some of the most eminent physicians and surgeons of the old world. He gave special attention to surgery and upon his return to Cedar Rapids opened an office in the Larimer building, later removing to the Security Savings Bank building. His ability has found expression in the successful work that he has done along professional lines and his practice is constantly increasing both in volume and importance.

Dr. Sheldon is a member of the Linn County Medical Society, the Iowa State Medical Society, the American Medical Association and the Iowa Union Medical Society, and through those organizations as well as by private reading and research he keeps in touch with the advanced work that is being done by the profession.

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#### WILLIAM JAMES MAXWELL

William James Maxwell, who for twelve years has been a resident of Cedar Rapids, came to this city as grand secretary and treasurer of the Order of Railway Conductors, in which connection he has since given his energies to furthering the interests of the society. He has not, however, confined his attention solely to this line for Cedar Rapids has found in him an advocate of municipal progress and improvement. He was born in Philadelphia, July 23, 1859, a son of Robert and Elizabeth (Green) Maxwell. The father, a native of Ireland, came to the United States with his parents in 1845 and settled in Philadelphia, where his remaining days were spent, his death there occurring in 1890. His wife, who was a native of that city, died March 21, 1910, at the age of seventy-five years.

William J. Maxwell pursued his education in the public schools of Philadelphia and afterward learned the trade of tin and sheet iron working. Subsequently he entered the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company as a conductor and remained in that service for eighteen years, his long retention being incontrovertible proof of his capability and fidelity. In May, 1898, he resigned that position to come to Cedar Rapids as grand secretary and treasurer of the Order of Railway Conductors, of which he has been a member since 1884. Appreciative of the need of concerted effort among train men that their interests may be conserved in this day of monopolistic tendency toward oppression, arising from a desire to secure labor at the lowest possible price, Mr. Maxwell is putting forth his efforts to promote the interests of the order, which has its headquarters in this city. The order has grown to very large and important proportions, having a membership of over forty-five thousand. It is based upon a spirit of mutual helpfulness as well as protection and has paid out over twelve million dollars in insurance alone. All business of the order is conducted in Cedar





Rapids and as grand secretary and treasurer Mr. Maxwell is greatly promoting its interests.

He is also connected with other fraternities, holding membership in the various Masonic bodies and likewise with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, of which order he is local secretary.

In 1879 Mr. Maxwell was married to Miss Mamie Wilfong, who died in 1883. In 1890 he wedded Miss Emma McDermott, a native of Philadelphia, and they have one daughter, Lizzie, who is now Mrs. Benson of Philadelphia. Mr. Maxwell is very popular and since coming to this city has thoroughly identified himself with the best interests of Cedar Rapids. He is also the secretary of the Cedar Rapids Country Club. His nature is genial and cordial and at all times he is approachable and kindly so that he wins friends wherever he goes and is very popular. Cedar Rapids finds in him a progressive and enterprising citizen and one whose labors are an effective force in promoting her best interests.

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### MARCUS S. HICKMAN

Marcus S. Hickman, who devotes his time and energies to farming and stock-raising, is the owner of a valuable tract of land of eighty acres on section 1, Marion township. His birth occurred in Jones county, Iowa, September 1, 1872, his parents being Shelton and Chloe E. (Ross) Hickman, who are natives of New York and Ohio respectively. Both the paternal and maternal grandfathers of our subject, Joseph Hickman and Bailey Ross, were natives of the Empire state. Shelton Hickman, the father of Marcus S. Hickman, took up his abode in Jones county, Iowa, in 1852, there purchasing four hundred acres of land. His marriage was celebrated in that county in 1859. He prospered in his undertakings and was enabled to assist his children in making a start in life, giving each of them a farm. He still owns one hundred and sixty acres of land in Linn county but is now living retired at Alburnett, Iowa, enjoying in well earned ease the fruits of his former toil. For one term he served as supervisor of Jones county. Both he and his wife are well known and highly esteemed throughout the community as people of genuine personal worth and upright, honorable lives. They were the parents of six children, as follows: Anna, the wife of W. J. Greer, of Linn county; John M., who is deceased; Mrs. Carrie B. Cowan, who lives in Dickinson county, Iowa; Marcus S., of this review; Laura, the wife of E. J. Gillmore, of Marion township; and Sarah E., the wife of H. H. Newell, of Marion township.

Marcus S. Hickman obtained his education in the common schools and remained at home until twenty-three years of age, when he started out in life for himself. When he was married two years later his father gave him eighty acres of land on section 1, Marion township, and here he has since carried on his agricultural interests with gratifying success. In connection with the tilling of the soil he makes a specialty of raising and feeding stock, mostly hogs. His place is lacking in none of the accessories and equipments of a model farm of the twentieth century and indicates the supervision of a practical and progressive owner.

As a companion and helpmate on the journey of life Mr. Hickman chose Miss Nellie E. McCreery, a daughter of David and Margaret (Mathews) McCreery, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania respectively, who came to this state in the early '60s. Her father has passed away but her mother is still living on the old homestead in Linn county. Her uncle, Alvin McCreery, was a soldier of the Civil war. Mr. and Mrs. Hickman now have four children, namely: Myrtle N., Mildred L., Paul J. and Irene R.



Mr. Hickman is a democrat in his political views but has never sought office as a reward for his party fealty, though he has served as a member of the school board for four years. Both he and his wife are devoted and consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Alburnett, and they occupy an enviable position in the social circles in which they move.

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#### JOHN C. PETROVITSKY, M. D.

Dr. John C. Petrovitsky, physician and surgeon with a practice the extent of which is indicative of high standing in professional circles, was born in Cedar Rapids, January 12, 1878. His father, John Petrovitsky, was a native of Bohemia and arrived in the United States in the early '60s, after which he lived in Baltimore and Chicago until 1870, when he came to Cedar Rapids and entered business circles of this city. For a number of years he was with the Sinclair Packing Company and later engaged in the pork packing business on his own account. In this undertaking he met with substantial success and continued the business until a few years ago, when he retired. He is a well known and influential citizen, especially among the Bohemian residents of Cedar Rapids, and is highly respected by all who know him.

After mastering the branches of learning taught in the public schools of Cedar Rapids Dr. Petrovitsky continued his education in the Coe College and later took up the study of medicine, being graduated from the Rush Medical College of Chicago with the class of 1901. He then went to Europe and spent sixteen months in study, pursuing a post-graduate course in the University of Prague, the University of Vienna and the University of Berlin. He entered upon active practice in Cedar Rapids in 1902 and, while he is conversant with and practices in all departments of the profession, he is yet giving special attention to surgery, in which line he displays notable skill. He enjoys a large practice and is a very busy man.

In addition to his private professional interest Dr. Petrovitsky is chief medical examiner for all the Bohemian societies and in these holds membership. He likewise belongs to the Masonic fraternity, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the American Medical Association, the Iowa State Medical Association, the Iowa Union Medical Association, the Linn County Medical Association and the Cedar Rapids Practitioners Club. In 1903 he was married to Miss Olga Vosmek, a native of this city and a daughter of John Vosmek, one of the old and representative early settlers here.

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#### HENRY HENDERSON

That the rich soil of Linn county offers splendid opportunities to the agriculturist is indicated in the fact that so many of her citizens control extensive interests. The day of small undertakings seems to have passed and the farmer, as well as the man of business, reaches out into broader fields, and this is true in the life of Henry Henderson, who now owns and operates a farm of two hundred and seventy acres, located on sections 10 and 15, Jackson township. He is a native of Canada, born June 25, 1848, and a son of William and Aley (Bersell) Henderson, both of foreign birth, the former of Scotland and the latter of Wales. The parents are mentioned in connection with the sketch of P. G. Henderson on another page of this work.



Henry Henderson accompanied his parents on their removal from Canada to Iowa, when a lad of about six years, for it was about the year 1854 that they made a permanent location in Linn county. The son was trained in the work of the fields during the spring and summer seasons, while in the winter months he pursued his studies in the district schools. He continued to assist his father until his twenty-seventh year and then began operating the home farm on his own account. He has since purchased the place, which embraces two hundred and seventy acres on sections 10 and 15, Jackson township. His fields are well tilled, while in the pastures are seen a fine herd of polled Durham cattle, of which Mr. Henderson makes a specialty. He displays sound judgment in the management of his affairs and in the operation of his farm and his stock-raising interests find scope for his energy and activity — his dominant qualities.

In 1876 Mr. Henderson chose as a companion and helpmate for the journey of life, Miss Hannah Blodgett, who was born in Jackson township and engaged in teaching prior to her marriage. Her parents, Simeon and Maria (Tucker) Blodgett, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio respectively, came to Linn county in 1854 and have since resided within its borders, their home being now in Central City. Their family numbers eleven children. Mr. and Mrs. Henderson have no children of their own but have reared two boys, who enjoyed advantages the same as if they had been of the same blood.

In politics Mr. Henderson is a republican and for twenty years served on the board of school directors, his deep interest in educational matters being manifested in his long retention in office. He belongs to the Modern Brotherhood at Coggon. Inheriting the sterling characteristics of a long line of sturdy Scotch ancestry and endowed by nature with a good constitution, he early developed all the attributes which make the successful man. Mr. Henderson has ever taken a lively interest in public affairs, lending his aid and influence in the cause of every good movement and heartily promoting the progress and advancement of his community.

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#### FRANK F. DANA

In mercantile and insurance circles the name of Frank F. Dana long stood as a synonym for business integrity and enterprise, and his memory is yet cherished and honored by many friends although ten years have passed since he was called to his final rest, being at the time seventy-three years of age. A native of New England, his birth occurred in Connecticut in May, 1828. His parents, Frank and Nancy Dana, were also natives of the Charter Oak state and removed to the middle west, establishing their home in Springfield, Illinois, where they resided until the death of the father. The mother afterward came to Cedar Rapids and spent her last years in this city.

Reared under the parental roof, Frank F. Dana pursued his education in the public schools and thus qualified for the practical and responsible duties of life which come when one leaves the school room and enters business circles. He arrived in Cedar Rapids in 1859 when this was a comparatively small and unimportant town, presenting little commercial or industrial activity. Soon afterward he was married to Miss Julia M. Harrison, who was born in England and came to the United States with her parents in 1846. They first settled in New York city where they resided until 1857, when they came to Cedar Rapids. For many years they were prominent residents here and the father took an active and influential part in public affairs, serving for eighteen years as treasurer of the city — a record scarcely paralleled in the history of the county. No higher testimonial of his capability and efficiency could be given than the fact that he





was so long continued in the office by reelection at the hands of his fellow townsmen. Mr. and Mrs. Harrison have now passed away.

Their family numbered ten children, including Mrs. Dana, who after her marriage accompanied her husband to Springfield, Illinois, where they remained for four years. During that time Mr. Dana was connected with the commissary department of the army for two years but in 1864 he returned to Cedar Rapids and became a factor in mercantile circles, entering the service of John Gates, proprietor of a large shoe store, with whom he remained for twenty-one years. He worked his way upward to a position of responsibility and had the entire confidence and trust of those whom he represented. On the expiration of that period he turned his attention to the insurance business, in which he was engaged until his death.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Dana were born two daughters, Clara A., now the wife of C. N. Jenkins, of Cedar Rapids; and Isabella, who is a stenographer and lives at home with her mother. The husband and father died in 1900, leaving behind him many friends whose warm regard and high respect he had won during the long years of his residence here. He was ever a courteous, genial gentleman, kindly in manner, helpful in spirit and those who knew him entertained for him the warmest esteem. In his business he was progressive and had secured a large clientage in insurance circles ere his life's labors were ended. His principles of manhood and citizenship had their root in his Christian belief. He held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and his life was ever in harmony with its teachings. Mrs. Dana also belongs to that church and is deeply interested in its work and progress. She now resides at 1420 A avenue.

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#### M. W. HOUSER

M. W. Houser is a well known representative of industrial interests in Cedar Rapids, being the owner of an extensive industry conducted under the name of the Cedar Rapids Cornice Works. Along well defined business lines he has developed his interests to large and profitable proportions and his business methods are such as will bear close investigation and scrutiny.

Mr. Houser is a native of Austria, his birth having occurred in that country, January 23, 1863. His parents, Michael and Barbara (Chensky) Houser, were also natives of that land and in 1870 came to the United States, settling in Iowa City, where they spent their remaining days, both passing away in the year 1905.

M. W. Houser was a lad of only seven years when brought to the United States by his parents and his education was, therefore, largely acquired in the public schools of Iowa City, after which he was apprenticed to the trade of cornice manufacturing and worked as a journeyman for several years. Realizing the value of further educational training, he saved his money and pursued a course in the Iowa City Business College, for he was ambitious and anxious to fit himself for better things. In the line of his trade he displayed such ability and efficiency that in 1890 he was sent to Cedar Rapids to open and manage a cornice-making shop, which he conducted for six months in the interest of his employer, and then purchased the business, which he managed for four years under the firm name of Maresh, Grissel & Houser. In 1894 he purchased the interests of both of his partners and since 1895 has conducted business as sole proprietor of what is now known as the Cedar Rapids Cornice Works. From the beginning the enterprise has proved successful and the business has been developed to extensive and gratifying proportions.

In 1893 Mr. Houser was married to Miss Emma S. Pospishil, a native of Cedar Rapids and a daughter of Joseph Pospishil, who came to Linn county in pioneer



times and devoted his energies to farming. He died in 1907. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Margaret Zenishek, is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Houser are parents of two daughters, Abna and Helen. He is well known in fraternal circles, being a member of Crescent Lodge, No. 25, A. F. & A. M.; Trowel Chapter, No. 49, R. A. M.; Apollo Commandery, No. 26, K. T., and as a Scottish Rite Mason belonging to Iowa Consistory, No. 20; and to El Kahir Temple of the Mystic Shrine. He also holds membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the United Commercial Travelers. He belongs to the C. S. P. S., the Z. C. B. J. and the Sokols, all Bohemian societies. He has served on the board of trustees of the first named. While living in Iowa City he served as a charter member of the Alert Hose Company. He has no time nor inclination for political activity, yet is always interested in the welfare of the city and endorses and supports many measures for the general good. He is, indeed, a busy man and his prosperity is well merited, for it has come as the direct reward of his earnest and intelligently directed effort.

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### JAMES BLEAKLY

The name of Bleakly is well known within the confines of Linn county, where members of that family have lived since 1871, and James Bleakly, who resides in Spring Grove township upon his well conditioned farm of one hundred and sixty acres, needs no introduction to anyone in his community. He is a son of William and Lucinda (Little) Bleakly, early settlers of the county, and is a brother of State Auditor John Bleakly.

Of Irish birth, James Bleakly was born in the Emerald isle in County Farm-anagh. With his parents he came to this country in 1863, and for eight years lived in Illinois, his father having rented a farm in Mercer county of that state. Believing that this side of the Mississippi offered greater opportunities for improvement in his condition and was a better place for his family, William Bleakly came to Iowa. He chose Linn county as his home and purchased three hundred and twenty acres of fine land in Spring Grove township, which he operated until the day of his death. He passed away in June, 1890, while his devoted wife followed him to the great beyond eight years later.

James Bleakly remained upon the homestead in Linn county, until he was twenty-eight years of age. Then he was united in marriage to Miss Mary J. Dwire, the daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Dwire, natives of Indiana, who had come to Linn county in 1871, the father buying a fine farm and remaining engaged in agricultural pursuits all his life. There were two children born to Mr. and Mrs. Bleakly: Lillian, born 1889, and William Henry, born 1893. Both make their home with their father, Mrs. Bleakly having passed away after an illness of one year's duration, her death occurring June 23, 1903.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Bleakly had purchased a nice farm and at once set up housekeeping there and began farming. He was very successful and improved the place to a great extent. Two years later, however, he sold it but immediately purchased a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Spring Grove township. He has lived upon this place ever since, with the exception of two years devoted to the grocery business in Coggon, Iowa.

Mr. Bleakly and his family affiliate with the Methodist Episcopal church and take an active interest in the church work. In his political belief Mr. Bleakly is a republican and has served the communities in which he has resided in the capacity of school director for a number of terms. For eleven years he was treasurer of the school of his district and is now serving a term as director. His fine farm bears some of the latest improvements that are known to agriculturists



in the community. He has erected many new buildings, a sixty-foot steel-tower windmill for pumping water for his stock, has set out splendid orchards and otherwise greatly enhanced the beauty as well as value of his place. He commands the warm friendship and esteem of all who know him by reason of his high ideals of citizenship and honorable dealings in all business relations.

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### J. C. JENSEN

Farming and stock-raising now claim the attention of J. C. Jensen, who for twenty years has been a resident of Linn county and is now the owner of a well improved tract of land on section 15, Jackson township. His early home was on the other side of the Atlantic, for he was born in Denmark and is a son of Hans T. and Mattie Jensen, also natives of that country, where the father died. The mother is still living there at the age of seventy years. In the family of this worthy couple were five children, three of whom are still living.

In the land of his birth J. C. Jensen grew to manhood, acquiring the education provided by the public schools near his boyhood home and early gaining a knowledge of agricultural pursuits. With the hope of bettering his financial condition in the new world, he came to America in 1890 and located in Linn county, Iowa, where for five years he worked as a common laborer. At the end of that time he rented a farm and so successful was he in its operation that at the close of two years he was able to purchase a place near Central City, making his home there for four years. On disposing of that property he bought the farm on section 15, Jackson township, where he now resides. This comprises eighty and a half acres of well improved land and he is meeting with excellent success in its cultivation.

In 1893 Mr. Jensen was united in marriage to Miss Lena Nelson, by whom he has one son, Nels C., whose birth occurred July 9, 1904. Both he and his wife were reared in the Lutheran church and during their residence in this county have made a host of warm friends. Mr. Jensen uses his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking.

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### GEORGE O'CONNELL

One of the most modern homes in Clinton township is the property of George O'Connell whose landed possessions aggregate five hundred and ten acres. In the midst of this excellent and well improved farm stands a commodious and modern residence that constitutes a most attractive feature in the landscape. Enterprising and progressive in all of his business affairs, Mr. O'Connell has made continuous progress since starting out in life on his own account. He was born in Linn county, December 23, 1861, and is a son of David and Bridget O'Connell. The name indicates his Irish lineage. The father was born near Cork, Ireland, in 1824 and in 1845 crossed the Atlantic to the United States, settling in Albany, New York, where he engaged in the hotel business for about fourteen years. In 1859, however, he left the east and came to Linn county, Iowa, settling in Clinton township, where he engaged in farming up to the time of his retirement in 1889. The succeeding two years were spent in the enjoyment of a well earned rest and in 1891 he passed away. At the time he came to Iowa he thought Vinton would outgrow Cedar Rapids and so purchased lots there as an investment. For four years he served as a mail carrier in Clinton





township and was well known in the community, his many excellent characteristics winning him high regard.

George O'Connell was a pupil in the district schools to the age of nineteen years and afterward attended the Cedar Rapids high school until he had attained his majority. Liberal mental training, therefore, well qualified him for life's practical and responsible duties and on attaining his majority he became associated with his father in his farming operations and at the time of his father's death inherited forty acres of land, this being his share of the estate. He has been buying land all around him since that time until his holdings now embrace five hundred and ten acres constituting a very valuable and desirable property. In all that he has undertaken he has won success and he now has a splendidly developed farm on which none of the modern equipments and accessories are lacking. The buildings are ample for the shelter of grain and stock and his beautiful home would be a credit to a city of large size. Comfort, good cheer and hospitality are prominent features of this home and make it a favorite resort of the many friends of the family.

Mr. O'Connell was married in Fairfax, Iowa, to Miss Ada L. Patterson on the 14th of October, 1891, and they have become the parents of six children: Ethel, who is eighteen years of age and was graduated from Sacred Heart Academy at Cedar Rapids; Ralph, fifteen years of age; Lee, thirteen years of age; Olive, ten years of age; John, eight years of age; and Helen, six years of age. The younger children are all pupils in the district schools. The family are communicants of the Catholic church and Mr. O'Connell gives his political allegiance to the democratic party for he believes that its principles contain the best elements of good government. That he is a man of marked energy and of keen business discernment is indicated in the success which has attended his efforts. He carefully watches all the details of his business and as the years go by has gained a place among the foremost and representative farmers of the county.

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### FRED W. FAULKES

The life history of Fred W. Faulkes, journalist, publisher, philanthropist and one of Cedar Rapids' most prominent citizens, covered the intervening years between April 18, 1855, and March 21, 1905. He was born on a farm in Dane county, Wisconsin, the son of James and Ann (Heal) Faulkes, both natives of England. His father was born in Gloucestershire, August 18, 1818, and was a son of Richard Faulkes, while his mother was born in the parish of Swinebridge, Devonshire, February 24, 1819, and was a daughter of John and Mary (Warren) Heal.

The early experiences of Fred W. Faulkes were those which usually fall to the lot of the farmer's son. He attended the district school and at eleven years of age was a pupil of the Belleville high school and later at Evansville Seminary and was for a time a student at the Wisconsin State University. He afterward learned telegraphy and entered the service as an operator. Subsequently he became connected with the newspaper business as a reporter on the State Journal published at Madison, Wisconsin.

In 1874 Mr. Faulkes came to Cedar Rapids and entered the employ of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railway Company, in the capacity of telegraph operator, filling that position at various points on the road for the following two years. During this period, however, he kept in touch with newspaper work by acting as special correspondent for various St. Louis, Chicago and other metropolitan daily papers. In 1877 he returned actively to the newspaper field, accepting a position at ten dollars per week as reporter on the Cedar Rapids





J.W. Faulkes,  
Cedar Rapids,  
The Evening Gazette. Iowa



Republican: was soon advanced to the position of city editor and remained with the Republican until 1884, when, in company with his brother-in-law, Clarence L. Miller, he purchased the Daily and Weekly Gazette and became and remained its editor until his death. In this new environment he soon demonstrated that he was to become a potent force in Iowa journalism.

Enterprising to a marked degree, his brain was fertile in thinking of new things and he placed the stamp of originality on the Gazette. A writer of unusual ability, his editorials were of the strong, solid, virile sort that sway and mould public opinion. Earnest, hearty, resourceful, there never was any doubt as to where he stood on any question of public welfare, and when he went into a fight he went into it with the express purpose of fighting to the end, neither giving nor asking quarter.

A man of impulses, his impulses when humanity was involved were in the right direction. He despised sham and hated deceit, handling both in the most vigorous and emphatic fashion known to the English language. His hospitality was unbounded and he liked nothing better than the society of his friends, but he liked as well being in the thick of the contest. Broad-minded and fearless, he stepped out into the clear light of everyday life untrammelled by any party, sect or creed and dared to give utterance to his honest convictions and in doing so builded even better than he knew.

He was a prodigious fighter for what he believed to be right. Never contemplating failure, he won because he expected to win. Once convinced that a work was good, he tolerated no hesitation and possessed the faculty of inspiring his associates with his own determination. Indulgent and sympathetic, doing the unexpected for those about him, lavishing charity in an unostentatious manner and ever ready to extend practical help to any need that came to his notice, he took the stand that it was better to be imposed upon ten times than to make the error of refusing relief to one worthy sufferer. He was always the champion and friend of homeless boys, pleading earnestly and vigorously their cause, realizing that in each there was a spark of manhood which could be fanned into flame if given the proper environment.

The founding of a home and school for crippled and homeless boys was one of his greatest ambitions and only failed of realization through his untimely death. His share of the world's work was done with the vigor and vivacity of a man who had no compromise to make with wrong in whatever guise he found it and was unfettered in allegiance to any cause or policy except that for the common good. He always promoted the beautiful and during his long career in Cedar Rapids any project that meant a better or more beautiful city had his hearty sympathy, and he would strive as earnestly for its success as if the advantage promised to be a personal one. Beneath the surface there beat a heart as kindly and a soul as stirring as a strong love for humanity could nourish. In the management of his paper he displayed keen business judgment and had the satisfaction of seeing it develop into one of the most prosperous publishing enterprises in Iowa, and his remarkable personality was reflected in every department of the Gazette.

On June 6, 1878, Mr. Faulkes married Alice Miller, daughter of Nelson F. and Elizabeth (Syester) Miller, and unto them were born three children: Alice Mary, James N., and Fawcett, the youngest, who died when one year of age. Mr. Faulkes' intense devotion to his home and family was one of his strongest characteristics and his home life was as nearly as possible ideal, loving, thoughtful, indulgent as husband and father. His devotion to his son Jim was especially marked and to him he was at once father, mentor and boon companion. Scarcely past middle age, his mind was filled with ambitious plans for carrying out some of the broader philanthropies which success was just beginning to give him leisure and means to carry out.





Mr. Faulkes had not reached on life's journey the stone that marks the highest point, but while yet in love with life and raptured with the world the pathetic end came. Probably the death of no citizen of Iowa has called forth more expressions of sorrow and regret, not only from his professional contemporaries but from men in every walk in life throughout the state, men who had fought with and against him and whose lasting admiration and respect he had won by his rugged, uncompromising honesty. Cedar Rapids has known few men from whose unselfish efforts it has received more substantial benefits and it has known no nobler, truer, manlier man.

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### ISAAC BICE

With the exception of the three years which he spent in the Union army taking part in many of the battles of the Civil war, Isaac Bice, owner of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres of land in Spring Grove township, has been a resident of the state of Iowa for fifty-six years. In that time he has seen the changes that have transformed it from a crude, frontier state into one of the finest agricultural and stock-raising portions of the Union and has noted its growth in population from a meagre sprinkling of settlers to its present condition. Not only has he witnessed these changes and improvements but he has played no small part in bringing them about, serving township and county in several important official capacities. His record, therefore, as warrior or as citizen, entitles him to a place among those who are known as the most representative citizens of Linn county.

Upon the 31st of August, 1839, Isaac Bice, a son of John and Susan (Putney) Bice, was born. The place of his birth was the Bice homestead in Oswego county, New York, where his parents had been born and reared. In 1845, Isaac then being six years old, his parents removed into Illinois, where they remained for a period of eight years, first renting a farm of three hundred acres in the eastern portion of the state and later securing another three hundred acre tract some distance west. They lived in the latter place for the last five years of their stay in Illinois. In 1854 the family, which was composed of father and mother and twenty-two children, removed into Linn county, Iowa, the father purchasing eighty acres of land from the government. He operated that place for six years, greatly improving it, then sold it and moved to Dallas county, where he purchased two hundred and forty acres which he cultivated for some time. Accepting a good offer for his Dallas county farm, he again returned to Linn county, where he lived for some time, eventually, however, taking up a claim of one hundred and sixty acres in Kansas, where he lived until his death occurred in October, 1892. His wife had passed away in December, 1874, and he never married again.

Isaac Bice spent his early life — until he was nineteen years old — upon his parents' several farms. At the district schools of the counties and states where the family lived during the early days, he secured an education, though none too good. Leaving his parents in 1858 he worked by the month on Iowa farms until he had attained the age of twenty-two years. Then the call for more volunteers came and he enlisted in Company K, Ninth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. For three years he served with his regiment, taking part in many skirmishes and several battles. At Claysville, Alabama, during a sharp fight with the opposing forces, he was severely wounded. Sent to the rear for treatment, then given a long furlough to enable him to recuperate, the war had ended by the time he was ready and fit for service, so he was honorably discharged.



Returning to Linn county, Mr. Bice purchased sixty acres of land and for ten years cultivated it. Then he removed to Spring Grove township, where he had purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land. Finding this too great an amount for himself to handle he disposed of eighty acres a short time later, and since that time has farmed the remaining two hundred and forty. This farm has been highly improved since Mr. Bice has taken charge of it. The buildings are all of modern design and with the latest appliances and conveniences, while numerous improvements in the cultivation of the fields has added greatly to the value of the soil.

The 9th of November, 1864, witnessed the marriage of Mr. Bice and Miss Mary C. Branaman, a daughter of Finley and Margaret Branaman, both natives of Ohio. There were nine children born of this union. Georgia E., who is married and lives in North Dakota; Gifford C., who is married and lives in Linn county; Roy G., who is married and lives in Ferndale, Washington; Guy L., who died in May, 1867; Gussie E., who is married and lives in Seattle, Washington; as does Ethel G., the sixth in order of birth; Ray V., auditor for the Ramsey Company, who is married and lives at Devils Lake, North Dakota; Delma F., who is attending the Northwestern University at Chicago; and Mamie R., at home with her parents.

During his long and honorable life within the boundaries of this state — and the major portion of that time he lived in Linn county — Mr. Bice has served the community in which he resided in several official capacities, and always to the very best of his ability, as is evidenced by the fact of his continuation for such long periods in the several offices which he filled. For over twenty-five years he served as constable and for fifteen years was deputy sheriff under various officials of that title. In the minor positions he has served the township as school director, the period of that service covering eighteen years. A republican in politics, he is yet a man of independent spirit and will, and his support is ever given to matters that have for their purpose the general betterment of the community or state. With his wife he holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and they take an active interest in all matters that are related to its work.

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### JOSEPH W. LESINGER

Joseph W. Lesinger, well known as a representative of financial interests in Cedar Rapids, aided in the organization of the Iowa State Savings Bank in 1906 and has since occupied the position of cashier. Bending his energies to the solution of intricate and complex financial problems and to the wise and prudent management of the bank, he has contributed in no small measure to its success. He was born in Kingston, Linn county, Iowa, on the 20th of March, 1873, and like many of the worthy citizens here comes of Bohemian ancestry. His father, Vaclav Lesinger, was born in Bohemia in 1846, and arrived in Linn county in 1868. Here he was married to Miss Anna R. Zerzan, a native of Bohemia, who came to this county in 1867 with her parents, Joseph and Rosalia Zerzan, who from the time they left their native country regarded Iowa as their destination. Mr. and Mrs. Vaclav Lesinger were married in 1871 and the father, who had previously learned tailoring, continued to work at the trade and, in fact, was continuously connected with the business until he retired from active life at a recent date. He had two brothers, George and Frank Lesinger, who came to America at the time he crossed the Atlantic. The former is now deceased.

Joseph W. Lesinger, one of a family of three sons and three daughters, pursued his education in the public schools of this county and in a business college, after which he made his initial step in the business world by securing a position



in an abstract office, where he remained for four years. His health becoming impaired through the close confinement of the office, he then accepted a position as collector with the Merchants National Bank in 1893 and has since been identified with banking interests in Cedar Rapids. He was advanced through successive promotions to the position of assistant cashier and was the first Bohemian officer in a national bank in this city. In 1906 he became one of the organizers of the Iowa State Savings Bank, was chosen cashier and has since remained in this position.

Mr. Lesinger was married June 4, 1895, to Miss Anna M. Kominek, a native of West Virginia, who came in 1875 to Linn county with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kominek. Two children, Lillian and Leona, have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Lesinger. In fraternal circles Mr. Lesinger is well known. He is the treasurer of Rad Mladocech, No. 14, Z. C. B. J.; treasurer of the South End Business Men's Club; treasurer of the Mir Zapadu Lodge, No. 118, F. U. of A.; treasurer of Cechie Lodge, No. 196, M. B. A.; and a member of Cedar Rapids Lodge, No. 578, A. O. U. W.; Linden Camp, No. 145, M. W. A.; and of the Bohemian Catholic Dramatic Club. He was chairman of the municipal civil service commission and he resigned this office after nearly two years' service, to accept the position of treasurer of the independent school district of Cedar Rapids, to which office he was elected March 14, 1910, and is serving in this capacity at the present time. Mr. Lesinger is interested in all things that pertain to the welfare and progress of the city, cooperating in many projects and measures for the general good.

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#### JOSEPH DEDITZ

Of the many fine farm properties of Linn county which bring their owners ample returns for their labors, none exceed in richness of soil nor improved condition that of Joseph Deditz, located in Spring Grove township. This farm, which has been his property over fifteen years, is two hundred acres in extent and is equipped with all the modern improvements that facilitate the cultivation of the soil or render less laborious the duties of the husbandman. Its appearance indicates the splendid management of an owner, who is not only practical but progressive. He is well worthy of representation in the history of the county by reason of his having been among those who developed the resources of this rich district, once it was opened to settlement.

Joseph Deditz was born in February, 1850, in Bohemia, that country which has produced so many sons who have brought fame to their native land and decided credit to the land of their adoption in peaceful pursuits. He is a son of John and Katherine Deditz, who were born, reared, lived and died in Bohemia. Until he attained the age of seventeen years, Joseph lived with his parents, learning the trade of a tailor. It was in 1867 that he came to the United States and located in the city of St. Louis, where for two years he worked in a tailor shop. Tiring of the indoor labor and hearing constantly of the success of those who tilled the soil, the young man, not yet of age, started out into the agricultural portion of the country to make his way. His steps led him toward Linn county, Iowa, and in 1869 he entered the boundaries of what is now his home county. He first rented land, operating one hundred and twenty-six acres for twenty-five years. He accumulated quite an amount of money and became fairly well off in this world's goods. It was about fifteen years ago that he decided to purchase a homestead and make permanent his residence in Linn county. He bought a two hundred acre tract in Spring Grove township and has resided upon it ever since. The farm, when first Mr. Deditz took charge, was in anything but a good





condition. Buildings were necessary and the entire equipment of the place was in bad repair. He installed new machinery, built new buildings and sheds, drained the fields on a more extensive scale and, within the past few months has built a fine new barn, eighty-four by sixty-four feet, and erected a new steel-tower windmill for use in handling feed and watering stock.

An important event in the life of Mr. Deditz was his marriage to Miss Barbra Freml. She is a daughter of Wesley and Mary Freml, natives of Bohemia, who came to this country in 1869 and first settled in Mount Vernon, Iowa, where they lived until they passed away, the father in 1892 and the mother some time earlier. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Deditz were born seven children: Annie, who lives with her father; Frank, who is a farmer and is married; Alice, who became the wife of M. Jellar, a farmer of Spring Grove township; Barbara, the wife of J. Schaffer, a farmer living in Spring Grove township; Jane, who died in March, 1909; and Margaret and Joseph, who make their home with their father. Mrs. Deditz died July 28, 1905, sincerely mourned by all who had known her as she was a very charitable, kindly-natured woman devoted to her home and family.

Mr. Deditz is a republican in politics and takes an active interest in the affairs of his district. He has little desire for office, however, having served but once in any township office, and then as road supervisor for a term of two years. He is a public-spirited man and is ever striving for the good of the entire community. He and his family are members of the Roman Catholic church and actively assist in any undertaking that has to do with the condition of their church or parish.

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#### FRED W. BAILEY, M. D.

Prominent among the representatives of professional interests in Cedar Rapids is Dr. Fred W. Bailey, who is now specializing on diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, in which connection he has won distinguished honors and gratifying success. He is yet a young man, his birth having occurred in Iowa City, Iowa, August 26, 1878. His father, M. H. Bailey, was a native of England and in the year 1861 became a resident of Iowa City, where he continued to make his home until called to his final rest in 1909. He married Anna Wickham, who was also a native of England and died in 1897.

Dr. Bailey pursued his early education in the public schools of Iowa City, being graduated from the high school with the class of 1897. He then matriculated in the Iowa State University and completed the liberal arts course with the class of 1901, at which time the Bachelor of Arts degree was conferred upon him. He next entered the Johns Hopkins University at Baltimore, Maryland, where he devoted a year to the study of physiology, after which he became instructor in physiology in the Iowa State University. At the same time he continued his preparation for the medical profession as a student in the medical department of that institution, winning the Master of Science degree in 1903 and the M. D. degree in 1905. In his studies he had prepared for the department of practice which he has made his specialty and following his graduation was elected assistant professor of the eye, ear, nose and throat. He entered upon practice in Iowa City as a partner of Dr. L. W. Dean, with whom he was associated until September 15, 1907, when he came to Cedar Rapids. He was already known to some extent by reputation in this city and was not long in building up a good practice, in which he has been very successful, limiting his efforts to the treatment of diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat. His close and discriminating study along these lines has gained him marked ability, which is attested in the excellent results that attend his practice. He is now retained as oculist by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company at this point and in 1910 was



appointed a member of the staff of St. Luke's Hospital, Cedar Rapids. While in the University he was physical director of the gymnasium of the Young Men's Christian Association and he belongs to the County, State and American Medical Associations.

In 1906 Dr. Bailey was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Wilkinson, a native of England and a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Rushworth) Wilkinson, who were born in Durham, England, and came to the United States with their family when Mrs. Bailey was seventeen years of age. She was graduated in 1899 from St. Luke's Hospital Training School for Nurses in Chicago and was superintendent of the training school for nurses in Iowa City from 1904 until 1907. By her marriage she has become the mother of one daughter, Alice, who was born April 27, 1907.

Both Dr. and Mrs. Bailey have made many friends during their residence in Cedar Rapids and their home is noted for its warm-hearted hospitality. The Doctor belongs to the Phi Rho Sigma and the Sigma Alpha Epsilon, college fraternities. While in school he was the leader of the College Glee Club and still takes an active interest in musical circles, being a singer of marked ability. Socially he is a member of the Cedar Rapids Country Club. Courteous, genial and approachable in manner, he easily wins friends, and gains high regard through his personal worth as well as his professional ability.

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#### SILAS A. DEVOL

Silas A. Devol, who is operating a splendid farm of two hundred and forty acres in Spring Grove township, has been a resident of Linn county for forty-one years. He is a veteran of the Civil war, who came west after that conflict ended, and has worked his way from a farm hand to that of the owner of one of the finest farms in his portion of the county. He is one of the substantial farmers of this splendid agricultural district and stands high in the community.

In his early youth Silas A. Devol worked upon his father's farm in Washington county, Ohio, where he was born January 31, 1843. His parents, Alpha and Avice Devol, were also natives of Ohio, where they were born, reared, lived and died, both passing away in the year 1871. Early in his life, the father was employed on flat boats on the Ohio river, but settled upon a farm when he had laid away sufficient money and followed farming the remainder of his life. His son Silas received but a meagre education, as he started to work very early in life and labored earnestly upon his father's place until the outbreak of the Civil war. Then he enlisted, at the age of eighteen years and was assigned to Company A, Thirty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. With this regiment he served throughout three years of the war and at its conclusion returned to Ohio, but remained there only a brief time, turning westward to find opportunity to make a home for himself.

In the state of Illinois he first stopped, working upon a farm for three years as a hired hand. Then he rented a small farm for a year, made some money and decided to go farther west in search of land. He came to Iowa, arriving in Linn county December 29, 1869. He first rented a farm and set up housekeeping. For thirty years he operated that farm, then, in 1895, bought one hundred and sixty acres of fine land in Spring Grove township and made that place his permanent home. In 1905 he purchased an additional eighty acres of land, which gave him a farm of two hundred and forty acres. Mr. Devol has improved his place, adding new buildings when necessary and rebuilding and replacing old ones with new and modernly equipped ones of latest design. He has installed a fine windmill upon the place and has brought both his fields and general farm equipment to a very high standard of excellence. In politics Mr. Devol is allied





with the republicans but has sought no office, though for twenty-five years he has served as school director of his township.

One of the most important events that has occurred in the life of Mr. Devol happened November 16, 1871, just two years after he came to Linn county. It was the celebration of his marriage to Miss Miranda Stambaugh, a daughter of David and Elizabeth Stambaugh, who were among the early settlers of Iowa. Her father was born in Pennsylvania, while her mother was a native of Ohio. They came to Iowa quite early in its history as a state and took up government land, spending their entire lives upon their farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Devol became the parents of five children: Nellie A., born in 1873, is now the wife of Attorney A. W. Fisher, of Walker, Iowa; William, died March 10, 1874; Perley O., makes her home with her parents; Asenath H., born in 1880, married Miss Delos Bucklin and they make their home in Otter Creek township; and Etta M., born in 1885, became the wife of Thomas O'Connor, of Central City, Iowa. Both Mr. Devol and wife, as well as their children, affiliate with the Christian church and the family is active in its work and generous in its support. Mr. Devol is known as a man of his word and is among the most esteemed citizens of the community in which he resides.

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#### ROBERT S. OXLEY

Robert S. Oxley is now living practically retired in Marion but still supervises the operation of his fine farm in Marion township. His birth occurred in that township on the 4th of August, 1856, his parents being John S. and Jane (Halley) Oxley, both of whom were natives of Kentucky. They came to Linn county in 1840 and more extended mention is made of them in connection with the sketch of Marshall Oxley on another page of this volume. Their son James P., now living in Marion, was a soldier of the Civil war.

Robert S. Oxley obtained his education in an old log schoolhouse such as was characteristic of the period and locality. On attaining his majority he rented a part of the old homestead farm and later bought a portion thereof. As his financial resources increased, owing to his untiring energy and good management, he purchased more land from time to time until his holdings now embrace three hundred and seventy-five and a half acres on sections 11 and 12, Marion township, all under a high state of cultivation and improvement. In connection with the tilling of the soil he made a specialty of raising and feeding stock and in all of his undertakings met with a gratifying and well merited measure of success. He has now put aside the active work of the fields, however, and is living retired in Marion, where he is well known as a respected, representative and prosperous citizen.

On the 13th of October, 1880, Mr. Oxley was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth E. Hoover, who was born in Lisbon, Iowa, on the 16th of November, 1857, her parents being Benjamin and Sarah (Bresler) Hoover, both of whom were born near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. They came to Linn county in the late '40s and here spent the remainder of their lives. They had a family of four children, two of whom yet survive. Mrs. Oxley's uncles, Henry and Christian Hoover, participated in the Civil war, fighting for the Union cause. Mr. and Mrs. Oxley have become the parents of four children. Nellie E., whose birth occurred February 11, 1882, passed away on the 7th of May, 1905. She was the wife of W. T. Beach, by whom she had a daughter, Gladys Clara, who now lives with our subject. Sarah J. is the wife of Harry Horn, of Marion township. Harrison B. Oxley is a resident of this county. Lucy May Oxley is a high-school student.





In politics Mr. Oxley is an earnest republican and has capably served in several township offices. The cause of education has ever found in him a staunch champion and he has done effective service in its behalf as a school director. Both he and his wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal church, in the work of which they are deeply and helpfully interested. Having spent their entire lives in Linn county, they have a wide acquaintance within its borders and enjoy the unqualified respect and esteem of those who have come to know them intimately.

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### ROBERT ELLIS

Ninety-three years of age, the most venerable citizen and patriarch of Cedar Rapids, no history of the city would be complete without extended mention of Robert Ellis. He came to western Iowa when this portion of the state was a great unimproved district and still a part of Wisconsin territory, the prairie covered with its native grasses, furnishing shelter to feathered game, while wild animals and Indians roamed at will over the district. Recognizing the natural advantages of the place Robert Ellis staked out a claim, and while other business interests drew him elsewhere for a time he has almost continuously resided in Cedar Rapids since that early day, or for a period of seventy-two years. It seems hardly possible that within the memory of living man this city has sprung up and grown to its present size, but the record of its development has left an indelible impress upon the memory of Mr. Ellis, who has always taken active and helpful part in the work of improvement and upbuilding here. Moreover, in this direction he has displayed marked ability and keen discernment, and success has crowned his efforts. He is today one of the most prominent and honored citizens of Linn county.

A native of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, Mr. Ellis was born January 20, 1817. His parents, John and Elizabeth (Cairns) Ellis, were natives of Ireland but in early life crossed the Atlantic, becoming residents of the Keystone state, where the father followed farming until his death in 1836. It was in this country that he married Elizabeth Cairns, who died in 1840. Robert Ellis was the eldest child of that marriage and is the only survivor of his father's children, John Ellis having had eight children by a former marriage.

In his native county Robert Ellis acquired his education and in 1837, when a young man of twenty years, started westward. He spent a year in Ohio and Michigan, and then crossed the Mississippi at Rock Island, Illinois, and followed an Indian trail through Iowa. He spent six weeks in what is now Cedar county, but learning that there was a more beautiful section still farther west, he resumed his journey. He was then scarcely more than a boy and was without money, but he was blessed with health and strength, with courage and determination. On the 6th of May, 1838, he reached the house of Michael Donahue in Sugar Grove and there spent the night. Two days later, on the 8th of May, he approached the site of Cedar Rapids. As he drew near from the east he was charmed with the view that was presented. Not knowing the exact location of the men who had settled here he was unable to decide which way to go, but observing the signs of travel in the brush near him he followed the stream and suddenly came upon a rude shanty which showed every indication of recent habitation by a white man. No person, however, was in sight. A path led to the river and down this Robert Ellis walked with rapid stride. He had gone but a few steps when he beheld a sight which thrilled him with horror. There at his feet in a patch of gardening which was being dug up for seeding, lay the body of a man apparently lifeless. Mr. Ellis says that he could feel his hair rise under his hat at the sight. The solemnity of the place, the desolation, the distance from civilization and the





Robert Ellis



surprise of the situation all tended to increase the horror to the lonely traveler who thus stood face to face with the spectre of death. He was no coward but involuntarily he shouted aloud. The shout was as startling as the discovery and with the first sound the body suddenly stood erect. The situation was certainly novel. "Hello, stranger! Well I swan!" said the man. Explanations quickly followed. It seems that the pioneer farmer had become weary and had thrown himself on the ground in the warm sunshine for sleep. Such was the introduction of Mr. Ellis to Cedar Rapids. The man proved to be Phillip Huil, one of the first settlers in this part of the state.

Charmed with the country, Mr. Ellis secured a claim on the bluff overlooking the river where he now has his home. He marked out his one hundred and sixty acres by guess, as there was no surveyor here, blazing the trees to show the land had been taken. He made no improvements thereon, however, until it came into the market in 1840, in which year George Greene succeeded in having the government land office changed temporarily from Dubuque to Marion. In the meantime Mr. Ellis worked in different ways in Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois and other states, while his friends looked out for his claim for him, which cost him a dollar and a quarter per acre. There were indeed few families in this locality when he arrived in Cedar Rapids in 1838. From that time he took an active and helpful part in the early development of the city and county. In 1844 or 1845 he purchased four thousand bushels of wheat for a Dubuque firm. He found it necessary to construct three flatboats near Palo on which to load the wheat, and then proceeded down the Cedar to Burlington. He found the firm unable, on account of the money panic, to meet their obligation in currency, so they gave him flour in exchange, which he took down the Mississippi to New Orleans. He found that city affected also by the panic and on the deal just came out even.

In 1849, while in the pineries of Minnesota, Mr. Ellis read Governor Mason's report of the discovery of gold in California and resolved to make his way to the mines. He crossed the plains by way of Council Bluffs to the Platte river and remained on the coast for six or seven years, returning to Cedar Rapids in 1856 — the year in which the city charter was granted. He then secured a man to assist him in building a frame house, a part of which is still standing on his original claim. From that time to the present he has been closely associated with Cedar Rapids and her improvement.

On the 2d of July, 1857, Mr. Ellis was married to Miss Martha L. King, a daughter of William and Catherine (Ambrose) King. The mother was twice married, her first husband being a Mr. Listerbarger. Mrs. Ellis was born in Pennsylvania and died September 29, 1899. She was a member of the First Presbyterian church and was held in the highest esteem by all who knew her. There were nine children in the family, of whom the eldest is deceased, the others being: King W., Elizabeth, Herman R., Charles G., Ralph R., Amanda, Wirt N. and George W.

In his political views Mr. Ellis has been a stalwart republican from the organization of the party and has served as township trustee and as president of the school district, but the honors and emoluments of office have had little attraction for him. He has preferred to labor for the public interest along other lines and he has witnessed marvelous changes in the surroundings during the long period of his residence here. He is today the oldest resident in Linn county and he relates many interesting tales and stories of pioneer times, when the red men roamed at will over this section of the country, when deer and other wild game were frequently seen and when one could travel for miles without coming to a habitation or an indication that the seeds of civilization were being planted on the western frontier. In the early days he bought cattle and hogs and sold them at an Indian agency, also at Fort Atkinson and Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. All who know him — and he has a most wide acquaintance — have ever realized that





he is a generous man and a liberal-minded citizen. As the years passed on he made investment in property and became the owner of valuable landholdings. In 1901 the city purchased from Mr. Ellis forty-seven acres of his original claim and converted it into a park which was named in his honor Ellis Park. Because of the use to which it was to be put Mr. Ellis sold it at half its actual value, thus making a most generous donation to the city. Ellis Park is now one of the beauty spots of Cedar Rapids and will forever perpetuate the memory of the man whose name it bears.

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### KENT CORWIN FERMAN

Kent Corwin Ferman, prominent among the enterprising, energetic and successful business men of Cedar Rapids, belongs to that class who, while promoting individual success, also contribute in large measure to the general prosperity through their promotion of commercial and financial activity. He is now identified with several of the city's important business interests, being cashier of the Cedar Rapids National Bank, treasurer and director of the Frick-Stearns-Russell Company and treasurer and director of the Perpetual Savings & Loan Association. He was born in Blairstown, Benton county, Iowa, on the 27th of December, 1872, a son of Robert and Rebecca Ferman, the former a wealthy farmer of Blairstown.

The son supplemented his public-school education by a four years' course in Cornell College at Mount Vernon, Iowa, and on the 10th of June, 1895, soon after his college days were over, he entered the employ of The Cedar Rapids National Bank as collector and messenger. Gradually he has been advanced through intermediate positions to the one which he now occupies, having in the meantime served as manager of the collection department, manager of the transit department, teller, note teller, chief clerk and assistant cashier, while on the 1st of February, 1908, he was promoted to the position of cashier, which is his present connection. Each promotion has come in recognition of his ability and expanding business powers, his energy and fidelity, and although a young man he is recognized as one of the prominent representatives of financial interests in his adopted city. He has also extended the scope of his activities by his investment in other directions and is now one of the large stockholders in the wholesale grocery house of the Frick-Stearns-Russell Company, with which he has official connection as treasurer and director. He is also connected in a similar capacity with the Perpetual Savings & Loan Association and is interested in a number of other enterprises which are features in the business life and consequently factors in the growth and development of Cedar Rapids. Moreover, he is serving as a director of the Cedar Rapids Commercial Club and is a cooperant factor in the various movements instituted by that organization for the benefit and upbuilding of the city.

On the 12th of June, 1900, in Tipton, Iowa, Mr. Ferman was married to Miss Carrie Elwood, whose brothers are the owners of The Elwood, a leading dry-goods house of Tipton. Mr. and Mrs. Ferman have two daughters: Ruth, now in her fifth year; and Florence, in her second year. The parents are members of the First Presbyterian church and take a deep interest in its various activities and the extension of its influence.

Mr. Ferman is also a prominent Mason, belonging to Mount Hermon Lodge, A. F. & A. M., while in the Scottish Rite he has attained the thirty-second degree, and is also a member of El Kahir Temple of the Mystic Shrine. He likewise belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and to the Country Club of Cedar Rapids, of which he is treasurer. Appreciative of the social amenities of life, by his geniality and unfeigned cordiality he has won many friends. He also finds genuine pleasure in successfully accomplishing whatever he undertakes in the bus-



iness world, in solving difficult problems, overcoming difficulties and obstacles and in carving out a new path to prosperity when another avenue seems closed. The simple weight of his character and ability have thus carried him forward into important relations.

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### ONEY WOODS

The farming interests of Jackson township find a worthy representative in Oney Woods, who now owns and operates the farm on which he was born, on section 15, that township. His birth occurred December 8, 1871, and he belongs to an old and honored family of Linn county, his parents being Peter and Mary (Rooney) Woods, both natives of County Monaghan, Ireland. They came to America in 1847, their marriage being celebrated in New York state. On first coming west they located at Rock Island, Illinois, where the father, who was a stone mason by trade, laid the foundation for the factory of the John Deere Plow Company at Moline. Later he brought his family to Linn county, Iowa, where he purchased land and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits throughout the remainder of his life. He was born in 1816 and died in July, 1904, while his wife was born in 1823 and passed away on the 10th of August, 1902. Eight children blessed their union: Bridget, who is now living in Linn county; Edward; Peter S., of Jackson township; Thomas, deceased; William, a stock buyer living in Coggon, Iowa; Anna; Maggie, deceased; and Oney.

The last named remained with his parents until twenty-five years of age, giving his father the benefit of his services in carrying on the work of the farm. He was then married on the 17th of February, 1897, to Miss Margaret G. Clark, who was born in Delaware county, Iowa, April 29, 1875. Her parents were Philip and Bridget (Seery) Clark, both natives of Ireland, the former born in County Cavan and the latter in County West Meath. They emigrated to America in early life and the father died in this state in March, 1910, but the mother is still living and continues to reside on the old home place in Delaware county, Iowa. They were the parents of eleven children, nine of whom are still living. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Woods are as follows: Clement H., born January 11, 1898; Joseph R., July 13, 1899; Agnes M., January 10, 1902; Francis O., July 29, 1904; Walter V., March 28, 1906; and Margaret B., January 1, 1908.

After his marriage Mr. Woods purchased the old homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Jackson township and has since devoted his time and attention to its further improvement and cultivation. He now makes a specialty of raising and breeding good stock of all kinds and in business affairs has steadily prospered, being today one of the well-to-do citizens of his community. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Catholic church and politically he is identified with the democratic party, but has never cared for the honors or emoluments of public office. Being one of the leading citizens of the community, however, he stands high in the esteem of all who know him.

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### LOUIS SCHANTZ

Louis Schantz has occupied his present home since 1897. His farm is pleasantly located in Spring Grove township and in his work he is displaying good business ability and keen discernment. His birth occurred in Washington county, Ohio, in August, 1865, his parents being Jacob and Amelia (Schram) Schantz, natives of Germany.



Louis Schantz was reared in his parents' home and acquired his education in the common schools. At the age of eighteen years he began working as a farm hand by the month, being thus employed for two years. At the end of that period, in 1885, he came to Linn county and for five years thereafter operated eighty acres of land in Otter Creek township which he rented. In 1897 he purchased one hundred and twenty acres in Spring Grove township and this he has operated to the present time. He has made some improvements on the place, including a neat little home and substantial barns and outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock. His farm presents a well kept appearance, indicating the careful supervision and progressive methods of the owner, who is practical in all that he undertakes and is winning a fair measure of success as the years go by.

In April, 1890, Mr. Schantz was united in marriage to Miss Emma Zellar, a daughter of Christian and Catherine (Bloom) Zellar, who were born in Germany. There is one son of this union, Frank B., who at the age of eighteen years is with his parents.

In politics Mr. Schantz is a republican but, aside from serving as school director for eight years, has filled no public office. Both he and his wife are members of the Christian church. They are prominent and respected in the community and have a circle of friends almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintances.

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### JACOB SCHANTZ

Although a resident of Linn county for a period of but seventeen years, Jacob Schantz, the owner of a splendid farm of eighty acres in Spring Grove township, has become one of the more progressive men of the township, as is proven by the well kept appearance of his farm and the modern improvements that he has placed upon the tract, improvements which cause it to rank with the best farms in the county.

Jacob Schantz is a native of Ohio, where he was born December 18, 1859. Washington county was the portion of the Buckeye state wherein he grew to manhood while working on his father's farm. His parents, Jacob and Elizabeth (Schuff) Schantz, were born in Germany and in their early youth came to the United States, where they were subsequently married, making their home in Washington county, Ohio. Their son Jacob was twenty years old when he started out to make his own way in the world. He began by working for farmers in the neighborhood, saving his money in preparation for the time when he should be able to own a place and make a home. For nearly fifteen years he worked out by the month and then decided to come west, so left Ohio. This was early in the spring of 1893, and on March 8 of that year he located in Linn county, Iowa, ready to make his way in this new and growing country.

For a period of five years after coming to the county Mr. Schantz worked for the farmers of the district and steadily saved his money. All this time he was acquiring knowledge of the methods of farming in the west and when the time came for him to buy his own place and operate it, he was a seasoned farmer so far as the western methods of farming went. It was just five years after his arrival in the county that Mr. Schantz made the purchase which gave him his present home. The portion he decided to buy was an eighty acre tract in Spring Grove township, the farm now occupied by himself and wife. He has greatly improved this farm, erecting thereon many necessary buildings, a windmill and sheds for implements and stock. The condition of the soil has greatly improved under his careful management and the farm has nearly doubled in value since first he took charge of it.





On March 17, 1910, Mr. Schantz was united in marriage to Miss Nora Wilking, of this county, who is the daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Ludwig) Wilking, residents of Ohio, where their daughter was born.

Both Mr. Schantz and his wife are affiliated with the German Lutheran church and their lives have ever been in accord with its teachings. In the expression of his political beliefs Mr. Schantz is a democrat, but his allegiance to that party is not such as to preclude his supporting a worthy man of independent character and beliefs. Although he began life with empty hands yet he has, by indefatigable energy and great perseverance, become the owner of his own home, which is one of the best in the district. He has gained the regard and esteem of those with whom he has come in contact by his honesty and earnestness of purpose.

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### CLAUDE CLINTON CARPENTER

Claude Clinton Carpenter, a prominent and progressive farmer of Marion township, Linn county, is a native of New York city, his birth there occurring on the 21st of March, 1855, and is a son of W. B. Carpenter, of whom extended mention is made on another page of this volume. He spent the period of his boyhood and youth in his parents' home and is indebted to the public-school system of his native city for the educational advantages enjoyed. He remained at home until twenty-eight years of age, when, attracted by the advantages offered by the great western country, which was entering upon a period of rapid but substantial growth, he decided to try his fortunes in the middle west and, coming to Iowa, settled in Linn county, where he purchased a tract of land of eighty acres located on section 8, Marion township. For five years he remained on that place, cultivating the fields with such success that at the expiration of that period he was able to purchase his present large farm of three hundred and fifty-nine acres on sections 5 and 18, Marion township, where he has continued to make his home to the present time. Owing to the unfaltering energy and unflagging perseverance with which he has carried on his farming, his place has been brought under a fine state of cultivation, everything about it indicating that he has kept in touch with the modern spirit of progress which is manifest in agricultural lines. In connection with tilling the soil he makes a specialty of raising and fattening stock of all kinds, and both branches of his business are proving sources of gratifying annual remuneration. He is one of the directors of The Farmers & Merchants Bank of Marion.

Mr. Carpenter has been twice married. On the 1st of January, 1883, he was united in marriage to Miss Libby Beall, a native of Linn county and a daughter of James and Doreas Beall, who are mentioned elsewhere in this work. Unto this union were born four children: Belle, the wife of Joseph A. Napier; W. B. Jr.; Claude Clinton, Jr.; and Ralph. The wife and mother was called to her final rest on the 19th of July, 1893, and on the 26th of January, 1899, Mr. Carpenter wedded Miss Stella Stinson, whose birth occurred in Linn county, Iowa. Her parents, Robert and Elmina Stinson, were natives of Indiana, who came to Linn county at an early date and are still residents here. This marriage was also blessed by four children, Frances Beulah, Mary E., Howard and Irene.

Mr. Carpenter has been a stalwart republican since age conferred upon him the right of franchise and has served as treasurer of the Marion district township school board for seventeen years and is still holding that position, but he has never sought nor desired public office, preferring to concentrate his attention upon his private business affairs, which carefully conducted, have brought him substantial success. He is an exemplary member of the Masonic order, belonging to Marion Lodge, No. 6, A. F. & A. M.; Apollo Commandery, No. 27, K. T.; and El Kahir



Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Cedar Rapids. At the age of fifteen years he united with the Methodist Episcopal church and has been a member of the same ever since. Realizing that labor is the basis of all success, he has manifested close application and unfaltering industry, which, combined with sound judgment and wise management have advanced him to a most creditable place among the representative agriculturists of this county.

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#### DAVID EDMOND HOWELL

David Edmond Howell has been active in promoting business enterprise in Iowa, various localities having felt the stimulus of his enterprise and discriminating judgment. He is connected with various lines in Cedar Rapids, but is perhaps most widely known as assistant secretary and treasurer of the firm of Warfield, Pratt & Howell, wholesale grocers in Des Moines, Sioux City and Cedar Rapids. Ohio claims him as one of her native sons, his birth having occurred in Bridgeport, that state, on the 15th of November, 1858. His father, David E. Howell, a native of Wales, came to America in early life and devoted the years of his residence in Ohio to preaching the gospel as a minister of the Methodist church. He died about two decades ago. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Susan Mardis, was the daughter of a Mississippi planter and slaveowner. She is now living in Washington, D. C., at the age of eighty-eight and, notwithstanding her advanced years, her mind is as clear as a bell, her memory undimmed.

Having mastered the elementary branches of learning taught in the public schools, David E. Howell, whose name introduces this review, continued his education in Allegheny College at Meadville, Pennsylvania, and crossed the threshold of business life when nineteen years of age, becoming a telegraph operator for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. He remained at that work for about two years and in 1879 made his way westward to Quincy, Illinois, where he spent a year in a bank. At the end of that time he accepted a position with the Warfield Grocery Company of that city and in 1892 he went to Sioux City, Iowa, with Mr. Warfield's son, and together they organized a company for the conduct of a grocery business at that point under the name of Howell, Warfield & Company. Mr. Howell had saved from his earnings the money which enabled him to become a partner in this enterprise and was active in the management of the new undertaking, which proved successful from the beginning. In 1898 he assisted in the reorganization of the company there and then came to Cedar Rapids, where he established business under the firm name of the Warfield, Pratt & Howell Company, of which he is assistant secretary and treasurer. Theirs is a very extensive wholesale grocery house, their trade covering a wide territory in the states of Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, North and South Dakota. They have always regarded satisfied patrons as their best advertisement and have ever endeavored to please their customers, utilizing in the conduct of their business only such methods as will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny. They carry a large line of standard goods so that they are ready to meet the demands of the trade, and their commercial integrity is unassailable. As the years have passed Mr. Howell has also become interested in many other business concerns, being a director of the Merchants National Bank, of the Cedar Rapids Canning Company, of the Welsh-Cook Company; and vice president of both the Iowa Windmill & Pump Company and the Acme Fire Insurance Company. He also owns real estate in Cedar Rapids and in all business matters his actions have been guided by sound judgment and he has not feared to venture where favoring opportunity has led the way.



Mr. Howell was married on the 9th of December, 1884, to Miss Margaret Lynds, a daughter of Daniel E. Lynds, a wholesale druggist of Quincy, Illinois. They have one daughter, Isabel, twenty-one years of age, living with her parents at No. 1962 First avenue in an attractive new home, which Mr. Howell recently purchased.

He has been affiliated with the Masonic fraternity since 1882 and has passed through all the degrees of the York and Scottish Rites to the thirty-second degree of the consistory. He has been a member of the Elks lodge since 1893, belongs to the Cedar Rapids Country Club and is interested in the work of the Commercial Club, of which he is a member, for the extension of the trade connections and the development of the municipal interests of the city. He is fond of horseback riding and all manly outdoor sports, and when the cares of his business permit he enjoys a sojourn at the seashore or in the mountains. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, but he has no aspiration for political office. A man of well balanced mind, even temper and conservative habit, his judgment and even-paced energy have carried him forward to the goal of success.

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### S. B. BEATTY

S. B. Beatty, ranking with the substantial citizens and prominent and progressive business men of Cedar Rapids, is numbered among Iowa's native sons and in his life displays the enterprising spirit characteristic of the middle west. His birth occurred in Cascade, Dubuque county, Iowa, April 13, 1854. His father, David Beatty, was a native of Ireland and in the year 1838 crossed the Atlantic to Philadelphia in company with his parents, James and Nancy (Dixon) Beatty. He was but a boy when his parents settled in Philadelphia, where he resided until 1846, when he became one of the first settlers of Cascade. His early life was devoted to farming and he was thus closely associated with the agricultural development of the community. As the years wore on he became a very active and influential citizen and was one of the promoters and builders of the narrow gauge railroad from Cascade to Bellevue. He continued to make his home at Cascade until his death, which occurred in 1907, when he had reached the advanced age of eighty-four years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Jane McCartney, was a native of Tyrone, Ireland.

S. B. Beatty pursued his education in the public schools of his native town and in Cascade Academy and through the periods of vacation assisted in the work of the home farm. After putting aside his text-books he gave his further attention to general agricultural pursuits until twenty-two years of age, when, believing that he would find commercial interests more congenial and profitable, he began merchandising in Cascade, opening a furniture and undertaking establishment. There he conducted a successful business until 1898, when he removed to Cedar Rapids, and opened an undertaking business at his present location. He is also interested in milling and mining in Montana and his carefully formed and well executed plans are bringing to him substantial and well merited success.

In 1881 Mr. Beatty was married to Miss Carrie L. Kelly, a daughter of Samuel R. and Mary M. (Macdonald) Kelly and a native of Brooklyn, New York, and they have become parents of three sons and a daughter: Donald R., married Florence Wittie and was secretary of the Kilbourn Milling & Cereal Company, of Kilbourn, Wisconsin. He was killed accidentally February 5, 1910. Robert J., is engaged in the undertaking business in South Dakota. Clarence is a graduate of the Cedar Rapids high school. Zelda is at home.

Mr. Beatty and his family attend the Baptist church, in which he holds membership. He belongs to Lodge No. 643, I. O. O. F.; Cedar Rapids Lodge, No. 25,





B. P. O. E.; the American Order of United Workmen; and the Fraternal Aid. In politics he is a republican but at local elections votes independent of party ties, supporting the men whom he believes best qualified for office. In all matters of citizenship he takes a progressive stand, advocating reform and advancement, and his cooperation has constituted an effective element along the line of general improvement. He is respected and trusted as a business man and in social relations wins that warm friendship which is only given in recognition of genuine personal worth.

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### DAVID H. LIGHTY

Among the retired citizens of Cedar Rapids is numbered David H. Lighty, whose life record represents many substantial phases of good citizenship and of business ability and enterprise and he, therefore, deserves mention among the representative residents of this part of the state. He claims Ohio as the state of his nativity, his birth having occurred in Montgomery county, on the 8th of October, 1828, and his parents were Benjamin and Mary (Hubler) Lighty, who were of Swiss descent. He was reared and educated in much the usual manner of farm boys, pursuing his studies in the country schools when his aid was not required in the cultivation of the fields.

Leaving the home farm at the age of seventeen, Mr. Lighty began learning the cabinet-maker's trade, at which he served a three years' apprenticeship and then went to Lafayette, Indiana, where he worked in a foundry and machine shop, and there learned the pattern-maker's trade, which he continued to follow throughout the remainder of his active business life. He also installed mill machinery in various places and in his chosen occupation met with most excellent success. It was about 1855 that he located in Cedar Rapids and he has seen almost the entire development and upbuilding of this city, ever bearing his part as a public-spirited and progressive citizen. As he prospered in his labors he invested in real estate and today has extensive holdings that enabled him to lay aside all business cares and live retired, enjoying well earned rest.

On the 20th of May, 1851, Mr. Lighty was united in marriage to Miss Susan M. Cory, also a native of the Buckeye state, and they have become the parents of three daughters, namely: Adelia T., now the wife of Jerry W. Rudy; Jennie E., the wife of Charles H. Mulvester; and Nellie E., the wife of O. B. Talley.

Mr. Lighty has always been a student and has paid especial attention to astronomy, in which he is well versed, and he has written many able and interesting articles on that subject, one of which recently appeared in the Evening Times of Cedar Rapids, telling of Halley's comet. His record as a business man and citizen is altogether commendable, characterized by devotion to the public good and to those principles which are elements in honorable, upright manhood.

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### JOHN N. DUNN

Among the leading business men of Linn county who devote their attention principally to the stock business is John N. Dunn, residing on section 14, Maine township, near Central City. He is a representative of a good old New England family, his paternal grandfather having come to this country from England and having been one of the first settlers of Vermont. Our subject's father, Lewis A. Dunn, D.D., was born in Bakersfield, Vermont, on the 12th of June, 1814, and was reared and educated in the east, attending school at New Hampton, New





*J. A. Dunn*





*Josie J. Dunn*





Hampshire. In early life he entered the ministry of the Baptist church and preached at Fairfax, Vermont, for thirty years. He then came to Iowa in 1872 and for twelve years was president of the Central University at Pella. He next spent four years in Marshall, Michigan, but at the end of that time returned to Pella, where he made his home until his death in 1888. He was regarded as one of the leading ministers of his denomination and was also prominent in public affairs. In politics he was an ardent republican, serving in the Vermont legislature, and was one of the founders of the Reform School in that state. He was broad and liberal in his views and he was well informed on all subjects, having made two tours through Europe, Egypt and Palestine. As an author he also attracted considerable attention, having published several works, including one entitled *The Footprints of the Redeemer in the Holy Land*.

In 1842 Rev. L. A. Dunn was united in marriage to Miss Lucy N. Teel, who died in 1853. By that union he had four children, namely: George, who entered the cavalry service during the war of the Rebellion and lost his life at Appomattox, being the last soldier killed before Lee surrendered; Cornelia, the wife of John W. Henry, of Berkeley, California; Albert, deceased, who was also a prominent minister of the Baptist church and served as secretary of the state convention in Maine; and Lucy, the wife of Dr. Hendershop, of Monroe, Iowa. The father was again married in 1854, his second union being with Arvilla Hammond, by whom he had three children: John N., of this review; and Ida L. and Mary, both deceased. The mother passed away in May, 1904.

John N. Dunn was born in Franklin county, Vermont, March 3, 1855, and spent his boyhood in the east, attending school in Fairfax, Vermont. After coming to Iowa he entered the Central College, from which he was graduated in 1881 with the degree of B. C., and later studied medicine for two years at Iowa City, but, being in ill health, he was forced to abandon that profession and secure outdoor work. Coming to Linn county in 1888, he embarked in the stock business, with his father-in-law, Chandler Jordan, proprietor of the Maine Valley Stock Farm, which was established in 1872. Mr. Dunn has since devoted his entire time and attention to this business, making a specialty of Scotch shorthorn cattle, Poland China hogs, Shropshire sheep and barred Plymouth Rock chickens. The *Breeder's Gazette* in speaking of his place said that today on the Maine Valley Farm is to be found one of the most uniform herds in the west. In this enterprise he has met with most excellent success, and he and his children are today the owners of about eight hundred and sixty acres of well improved and valuable land and one of the most valuable herds of shorthorn cattle in the country. He also owns stock in the Central City bank and has real estate in Pella, Iowa. Enterprising and energetic, he has prospered in all his undertakings and is regarded as one of the most progressive and leading business men of his community.

On September 23, 1886, Mr. Dunn was united in marriage to Miss Josie J. Jordan, a daughter of Chandler Jordan, who was one of the pioneers of Linn county, arriving here in 1844. No land in Maine township had at that time been entered from the government. He was acknowledged to be one of the most prominent and influential citizens of the county and took active and helpful part in its development and progress. He died November 29, 1909, having for only a short period survived his wife, who passed away on the 10th of July of the same year. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Dunn were born three children, Julia A., Lewis J. and Jessie S., all attending Central College. The wife and mother passed away December 10, 1907, mourned by many friends as well as her immediate family. She was born in Maine township, August 18, 1861, and was therefore forty-six years, three months and twenty-two days of age when called to her final rest. She was educated in the public schools of Linn county and spent six years at Central University at Pella, Iowa, from which institution she was graduated with valedictorian honors in June, 1885, the degree of Bachelor of Arts being at that time con-



ferred upon her. With the exception of the six years spent at school and eighteen months' residence at Pella following her marriage, she always resided on the farm where she was born.

At her death one of the local papers said: "Her life was spent, her work done, among the friends and surroundings of her childhood and young womanhood. These friends and associations, together with her family, she prized and loved above all earthly things, and here she was content to live, to labor, and exemplify in her daily life her piety and devotion that shed its radiance on every relation in life she assumed. She was, in the highest and best sense, everybody's friend. She had a kind word and friendly hand for all; she was sweet tempered, soft voiced and always self contained. She was thoughtful, careful of speech and act, and always weighed well her words of counsel, advice or criticism. She had the highest regard for the rights of others, and her first thought was, in any proposition, what is the right thing to do or say. This alone was her guiding star, and once determined what was right, nothing could move her from it. She was thoroughly educated and refined in all the graces of true womanhood, and yet there was never a display or insinuation of superior attainments, but a nice regard for all the finer sensibilities of her associates, and always a sinking of self in the work proposed or accomplished. She was devoted to the work of the church and Sunday school, and never shirked responsibility of any thing that promised an uplift of the work there. Her life was consecrated to her family, and she was a dutiful and loving daughter and sister, a noble wife and mother, a good neighbor and friend, which made her whole life a benediction to her family, her church, her neighbors and her friends. She leaves her husband and three children, her aged parents and one sister, and a legion of friends, whose every heart will always beat responsive to her memory, and her death leaves a vacancy in the church, the Sunday school, the Aid and Mission societies, that all feel will be hard to fill."

Being one of the prominent and influential citizens of his part of the county, Mr. Dunn has taken quite an active part in public affairs. He is the secretary and was one of the organizers of the Farmers' Institute and also of the Linn County Fair Association. By his ballot he supports the men and measures of the republican party and has served as school director and township trustee for several years. An earnest member of the Baptist church, he is now serving as deacon and has filled the offices of treasurer for twenty years and as Sunday-school superintendent for nineteen years. He is also a member of the board of Central College and of the board of the Baptist state convention. His life has ever been upright and honorable and wherever known he is held in the highest regard.

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#### WILLIAM J. SLOAN

Among those who are filling positions of public trust in Cedar Rapids is numbered William J. Sloan, now serving as justice of the peace. He was born in County Antrim, Ireland, October 31, 1846, his parents being James and Jane Sloan. The father was also a native of County Antrim and was born in 1796 and devoted his entire life to general agricultural pursuits. He passed away in 1863.

On the green isle of Erin William J. Sloan spent his youthful days, acquiring his education in the public schools which he attended to the age of sixteen years. He then began farming with his father and was associated with him in business until his father's death. The favorable reports which he heard concerning America for business advantages and opportunities led him to seek a home in the new world. Bidding adieu to friends and native country in 1866 he sailed for the United States and with Anamosa, Jones county, Iowa, as his destination





pursued his westward journey until he reached this state. There he learned the cooper's trade which he followed in Anamosa from 1866 until 1874. In the latter year he came to Cedar Rapids and accepted a position in the cooperage department of the Sinclair Packing Company with which he remained for a quarter of a century as one of its most trustworthy employes. At the end of that time he accepted the position of justice of the peace. His decisions in that office have been strictly fair and impartial, being based upon the law and equity in the case.

In January, 1874, Mr. Sloan was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Armstrong, the wedding being celebrated in Buchanan county, Iowa. Theirs was a happy married life ten years after which they were separated by the death of Mrs. Sloan, in 1884. They had one child, Martha G., now twenty-seven years of age. Mr. Sloan is prominent in Masonry, having attained the thirty-second degree in the Scottish Rite. He belongs to the Odd Fellows Society and also affiliates with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Royal Arcanum. His political endorsement is given to the republican party for his study of the questions and issues which are prominently before the public has led him to the belief that republican principles contain the best elements of good government. His religious faith is that of the Presbyterian church. His friends, and they are many, recognize in him those sterling traits of manhood which make him a valued friend and a good citizen.

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#### JOSEPH FIALA

Joseph Fiala, carrying on general farming in Spring Grove township, where he owns two hundred and forty acres of fine farming land, is a native of Bohemia, his birth having occurred there April 6, 1851. He is a son of Frank and Frances Fiala, who lived and died in Bohemia. His early education was received in his native country, where he grew to manhood and married, his wife being Miss Anna Burval, a daughter of Frank and Anna Burval, natives of Bohemia. The date of their marriage was February, 1873, and two years later Mr. Fiala came to America, alone and friendless, to make a home for himself and his wife. He came at once to the west, locating in Linn county, Iowa, where he worked by the month at the mason's trade, which he had followed in his native land. Success attended him from the very start, he made money rapidly, and lived economically and saved it, so that he was soon able to send for his wife, whom he had left behind with her parents. He also sent money sufficient to pay the passages of both of his wife's parents, who accompanied their daughter to this country and made their homes with her, the father dying in December, 1909, while the mother had preceded him several years, her death having occurred May 2, 1906.

Joseph and Anna Fiala became the parents of four children. Anna, now thirty-five years of age, is married and makes her home in Grant township. Joseph, aged thirty-three years, makes his home with his parents, as does Frank, who was born thirty-one years ago. Edward, fourteen years of age, lives at home and works on the farm when not attending school.

Mr. Fiala's first purchase of land in this country was made in 1877. He had landed in Linn county June 14, 1875, and with characteristic thrift had, in two years' time, succeeded in earning and saving sufficient money to purchase thirty acres of land as well as to pay for the passages of his wife and her parents. This first purchase was timber land. Mr. Fiala cleared his place and built his first home upon it. A few years later he had sufficient money to enable him to purchase forty acres more, while two years later he bought an additional twenty acres, making a total of ninety acres. For twenty years Mr. Fiala lived upon





this tract and in 1897 purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Spring Grove township. This is the homestead he at present lives upon with his wife and family, although two years after taking possession of his first purchase he added eighty acres adjacent to his estate, making two hundred and forty acres in all. The farm has been carefully cultivated and cared for, the required buildings erected and improvements made, until the place is now one of the best in the entire township.

Mr. Fiala is a democrat in politics and has served in many offices during his residence in the United States. In Putnam township he served as school director several terms and also served two years as justice of the peace. Fraternally he is connected with but one organization, being a member of the Z. C. B. J., a Bohemian lodge of Ely, Iowa. Both Mr. and Mrs. Fiala are members of the Roman Catholic church, in the work of which they are deeply and helpfully interested. The splendid success which Mr. Fiala has achieved came to him as the result of years of severe labor and saving, coupled with an honest determination to succeed.

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#### DANIEL D. DEMPSEY

Daniel D. Dempsey, owner and manager of the Cedar Rapids Steam Dye Works, is a native of Illinois, born November 1, 1865. His father, William Dempsey, was a native of Ireland and in that country devoted his time and attention to farming but after crossing the Atlantic to the new world he ran a boat on the Hudson river for a time. Subsequently he became bookkeeper and private secretary for the mayor of Jersey City. In 1862 he removed to Ogle county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming, and in 1869 he made his way westward to Iowa. Here he again took up general agricultural pursuits, successfully tilling his fields for about twenty-seven years, bringing his farm under a high state of cultivation and improvement. In 1896 he retired from active life and established his home in Cedar Rapids, where his remaining days were passed in the enjoyment of well earned rest. In New York city he married Miss Ellen Redmond, a native of Ireland, and they became parents of six children of whom five are yet living: Edward Z., a merchant of Dysart, Iowa; William H., who is living retired in Cedar Rapids; James G., who is associated in business with his brother Daniel D. in Cedar Rapids; Johanna, the wife of Patrick Brennan of Benton county, Iowa; and John E., of Grand Rapids, Michigan, who died July 30, 1904. The mother passed away at Dysart, Iowa, in 1899, and the father departed this life in 1907. He was numbered among the most loyal and faithful residents of the community in which he lived, interested at all times in those measures and projects which work for the upbuilding and development of the community or the country at large.

Daniel D. Dempsey, spending his boyhood days on his father's farm, attended the country schools, working in the fields and indulging in such sports as usually claim the attention of the farm boy. He continued to assist in the work of plowing, planting and harvesting until 1903, when, leaving the farm, he removed to Dysart, Iowa, where he conducted a billiard room until January, 1907. He is still the owner thereof but leaves its management to others. Removing to Cedar Rapids he established a billiard room in the Montrose Hotel, the finest in this city, and was given a liberal patronage while conducting that business. In February, 1910, he purchased the Cedar Rapids Steam Dye Works, which he is now conducting. It is one of the large and growing enterprises of this character in this city and the excellent class of work turned out together with the reasonable prices charged insure a continuance of the trade. Mr. Dempsey is also a



stockholder in the Cedar Rapids Life Insurance Company and is a quarter owner in a fine and valuable farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Benton county, Iowa.

On the 18th of February, 1896, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Dempsey and Miss Jean Campbell, a daughter of John and Sarah (Jameson) Campbell, of Traer, Iowa. They reside at No. 508 Third avenue, East, and have three interesting children: Mildred, ten years of age; Loraine, six years of age; and Kathleen, who is the baby of the household. The parents are communicants of the Catholic church and Mr. Dempsey belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Columbus and the Modern Woodmen of America. Since leaving the farm he has applied himself diligently to the work he has undertaken and has won substantial success which numbers him among the men of affluence in Cedar Rapids.

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### SAMUEL SHAFER

While Samuel Shafer has now passed the seventieth milestone on life's journey, he is yet an active factor in the business world and is now conducting a livery stable in Cedar Rapids, in which enterprise his son Herbert is associated with him. They have built up a business of large and extensive proportions and have one of the best equipped livery barns in Iowa. There are other chapters in the life record of Mr. Shafer that are equally creditable and his history cannot fail to prove of interest to many of the readers of this volume, for he is widely known in Linn county. His birth occurred in Richland county, Ohio, March 16, 1839. His father, Christopher Shafer, a native of Baltimore county, Maryland, followed farming in that state and afterward became a resident of Ohio, where he resided until 1840, when he came to Iowa, casting in his lot with the pioneer settlers of this state. His family numbered eight children, of whom three died in infancy. The father passed away more than a half century ago.

Samuel Shafer was only a year old when brought to this state with his parents, who settled first in Muscatine county, where at the usual age Samuel Shafer entered the public schools, pursuing his studies to the age of eleven years, when he was left an orphan by the death of his mother. Facing the necessity of providing for his own support, he secured work as a farm hand and also did odd jobs at teaming until the difficulties between the north and the south involved the country in civil war. Believing that the government at Washington was supreme and that the Union should be maintained, he joined Company K of the Eleventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry, under command of Captain Marvin and Colonel Hall. The regiment was assigned to General Crocker's brigade. With this command he participated in the battle of Shiloh, the siege of Vicksburg and the Atlanta campaign. During the battle of Atlanta, on the 22d of July, 1864, he was captured and incarcerated in Andersonville prison, where he was held for three months, during which period he was almost starved to death. He was then transferred to Charleston, South Carolina, in company with ten thousand other Union soldiers, and four weeks later was sent to Florence, that state. He went through all the hardships, horrors and experiences of war but never faltered in his loyalty to the old flag and the cause it represented. While at Florence he was exchanged and soon rejoined his regiment at Washington, D. C., after being held as a prisoner of war for seven months. In July, 1865, he was honorably discharged and returned home with a most creditable military record.

During his four years' service Mr. Shafer had managed to save two thousand dollars and with this capital he established a livery business in Cedar Rapids. He dates his residence in this city, however, from 1856, at which time he entered



the employ of Higley Brothers, liverymen, with whom he remained until the outbreak of the war. It was in 1866 that he began business on his own account here and since that time has figured as one of the leading liverymen not only of the city but also of this part of the state. A liberal patronage has been accorded him, making his business a profitable one. His son Herbert is now associated with him and makes a specialty of buying and selling fine carriage horses, displaying exceptional ability at making a trade.

On the 4th of May, 1869, Mr. Shafer was united in marriage in Cedar Rapids to Miss Ava C. Bennett, a daughter of Frank Bennett, who was employed by the Cedar Rapids Street Railway Company until he was eighty years of age. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Shafer were born seven children, three of whom are now living: Herbert R., who is now engaged in business with his father and is also conducting a real-estate business here; Samuel E., a mechanical engineer, living in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and Abbie, who is at home with her parents at No. 511 Eighth avenue East. The children have been liberally educated. The elder son is a graduate of the Cedar Rapids high school, where he completed his course in 1890, and since that time he has married Miss Laura A. Granger, a daughter of Joseph Granger, a prominent farmer of Marion township. Herbert Shafer is a member of Mount Hermon Lodge, No. 263, A. F. & A. M., the National Union and the Sons of Veterans, while his wife is a member of the Rathbone Sisters and was the first to hold office in that lodge. The younger son pursued a course in mechanical engineering in Armour Institute at Chicago.

Mr. Shafer is a member of T. Z. Cook Post, G. A. R., and of the Woodmen of the World, while in his political views he has always been a stalwart republican. He owns his residence property here and also his livery barn. He belongs to the Baptist church and his life has been well spent, while he has ever endeavored to deal fairly and justly with all men, to faithfully perform his duties as a citizen and to meet all of the obligations of life in a straightforward, honorable manner.

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### PASQUALE PUSATERI

Among the business enterprises of Cedar Rapids which are accorded a liberal patronage is the firm of Pusateri Brothers, of which Pasquale Pusateri is a member. As the name indicates, he is of foreign birth, his birth occurring on the 21st of May, 1877, at Termini, Tmeresi, Sicily. His parents were Agostino and Maria (Delise) Pusateri, the former an expert in fruit culture who passed away in his native land in 1890, after acquiring a very comfortable competency. His wife later came to Cedar Rapids to make her home with her children. In their family were seven children, namely: Maria, the wife of Antonio Scolaro, of this city; Joseph, a well known merchant of Iowa City; Peter, Pasquale, Antonio and Agostino, joint partners in the retail fruit business; and Rosy, making her home with her mother. Of this number Agostino is also engaged as foreman in the Russell Candy Company, being recognized as an expert candy manufacturer.

Pasquale Pusateri remained a resident of Sicily until twelve years of age, when, in 1890, he crossed the Atlantic to the United States, locating first in Chicago. In that city he made his home for nine years, and there his education, which had been begun in his native land, was completed. On laying aside his text-books he found employment in various fruit and wholesale commission houses, and he was also engaged in construction work for the city of Chicago. The year 1899 witnessed his arrival in Cedar Rapids and here with his three brothers he established the firm of Pusateri Brothers. The enterprise had a small





beginning in a store on Second avenue, but by close economy, indefatigable energy and untiring perseverance the partners have expanded the business until they now occupy in addition to the original location another store on First avenue. They do a large retail fruit and confectionery business, which has now reached most profitable proportions, and the degree of success to which they have attained is due entirely to their own well directed efforts and to the wise management of their business affairs. Pasquale Pusateri is a member of and was elected by acclamation to the presidency of an organization known as the Aetna Fruit Dealers Association, comprised of twenty-two merchants and incorporated in 1902 under the state laws of Iowa.

Mr. Pusateri holds membership in the Catholic church and also belongs to Unione Siciliana, a fraternal society. In politics he is a republican and in his citizenship has ever been loyal to the institutions of his adopted country, while in the welfare of Cedar Rapids he takes an active interest, ever advocating those things which tend toward the upbuilding and development of the city. Possessing good business ability, he has so conducted his interests that he now ranks among the substantial business men of Cedar Rapids.

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### ALPHONSE FRANCHERE

No history of Cedar Rapids and her progress in commercial lines would be complete without extended and personal reference to Alphonse Franchere, who from 1885 until his death in 1910 was identified with mercantile interests in this city. The large department store known as "The Fair" is today a monument to his initiative spirit, his powers of organization and administrative direction. Nor was it alone in commercial lines that he left the impress of his individuality upon the city. He was recognized as a man of wide public spirit and large benevolence, his generosity being manifest many times but always unostentatiously.

Born in Chicago on the 15th of February, 1854, he was employed in 1870 as cash boy in the department store of Field, Leiter & Company of that city. He soon showed a willingness to work which, combined with his adaptability and determination, were qualities which constituted the salient points in his success. Gradually he was promoted until after devoting fifteen years to service in that establishment, he left Chicago for Neenah, Wisconsin, where he embarked in business on his own account, investing the capital which he had acquired as the result of his industry and careful expenditure. He opened a mercantile house in Neenah, where he remained in business for two years, when he sold out. He then went to New Mexico, where he was successfully engaged in the cattle business for several years and in 1885 he arrived in Cedar Rapids, where he purchased a small shoe store known as "The Big Four." In a humble way, he entered commercial circles here but as time passed on he added department after department and store after store until the establishment known as "The Fair" contained eighteen departments, each having a floor space of one hundred and twenty by twenty feet. He had little capital but with large faith in the possibilities of Cedar Rapids, he opened a shoe store at No. 212 First avenue and quickly secured a good patronage. As his resources permitted and his business grew he added to his stock and after two years he established a dry-goods and fancy goods department in the adjoining store—No. 214 First avenue. His business continued to flourish and in 1889 he again enlarged his store, taking another floor and also increasing his ground floor space. In 1891 he secured the store room at No. 216 First avenue and then his establishment became a regular department store. His business increased and his trade came from far and near.



In 1849 Mr. Franchere was joined by his brother, O. J. Franchere, of Chicago, who was thereafter actively identified with the management of the enterprise. Later they were joined by a nephew, A. O. Franchere, and the three men continued as active factors in the commercial circles of Cedar Rapids until the death of the founder and senior partner. The Fair is, indeed, not only one of the most extensive but also one of the most complete mercantile establishments in Iowa, popular because of its attractive arrangement, the straightforward business methods employed, and the large line of thoroughly modern goods carried. The time and attention of Alphonse Franchere largely centered upon his business interests and his ability was manifest in the notable advancement and success which he won. A man of great natural ability, his success in business from the beginning of his residence in Cedar Rapids was uniformly rapid. As has been truly remarked, "after all that may be done for a man in the way of giving him early opportunities for attaining the requirements which are sought in the schools and in books, he must essentially formulate, determine and give shape to his own character," and this is what Mr. Franchere did. He persevered in the pursuit of a persistent purpose and gained a most satisfactory reward. Moreover, he ever supported those interests which are calculated to uplift and benefit humanity, while his own personal worth was deserving of the highest commendation.

There were also other phases of Mr. Franchere's nature that were most commendable. He was connected with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and as a member of the Catholic church he was devoted to high ideals. He was always active in support of any movement or enterprise which would add to the prestige of Cedar Rapids. Notwithstanding his many business cares, he found much time to devote to sports. He was an active promoter of bicycle and other racing events, but was especially devoted to baseball and a lover of the national game. He was one of the leading promoters, if not the leading factor in giving to Cedar Rapids year after year league ball. For a long period he was president of or promoter in the local baseball association and he gave unsparingly of his time and money that the game might be perpetuated. Athletic Park was created largely under his direction. He was also one of the promoters of the carnival, which annually brought to Cedar Rapids many thousands of visitors, and he was likewise deeply interested in the building of the City Auditorium. Moreover, he gave freely to charity. His giving was always unostentatious, an index of the character of the man and a fitting recognition of the noble qualities of his manhood. He passed away August 13, 1910, and it was with genuine sorrow and profound regret that the people of Cedar Rapids learned of his passing. His name will long live in the business annals of the city, while his memory will be cherished in the hearts of many who called him friend.

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### ELMER J. C. BEALER

The historian who attempts to analyze the life record of Elmer J. C. Bealer will find it difficult to designate the most important phases in his life, so varied have been his activities, so diverse his interests and so far-reaching and effective his efforts. There stand out as prominent features in his life a most creditable military experience as a soldier of the Civil war, a legislative service covering the twenty-ninth, thirtieth and thirty-first general assemblies and a business record that marks his rise from a comparatively humble position to a place among the prominent contractors and quarrymen of the Mississippi valley. Each have called forth in him certain qualities and characteristics worthy of admiration and honor.





*[Handwritten signature]*





Born near Berne, Switzerland, May 20, 1845, Elmer J. C. Bealer was only four years of age when the family emigrated to America, settling in Cleveland, Ohio. His father, John Ellis Bealer, after looking in vain for a week for work at the stone-mason's trade finally prevailed upon the foreman of a company to employ him with the understanding that he was to be paid what he was worth, and at the end of a week he was given fifty cents more than any other workman on the same job on account of his skill and rapidity. Later he engaged in quarrying and bridge contracting at Newton Falls, Ohio, and in November, 1856, went to Iowa City, Iowa, to take charge of stone work at that place and the capital quarry ten miles up the river. He was joined by his family January 8, 1857, but his wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary E. Walker, died there on the 14th of the following March, at the age of thirty-seven years. In the spring of 1867 the father sold his business at Iowa City to his son Elmer and removed his family to a farm which he had purchased and improved. The son bought the home farm February 20, 1877, having in the previous year formed a partnership with his father in the stone business at North Liberty, where they carried on operations together until March, 1878, when the partnership was dissolved and the father removed to Gage county, Nebraska, he and his son purchasing a farm two miles west of Odell. He had just begun the improvement of that place when he was accidentally killed on the 1st of August, 1878, at the age of fifty-two years.

John E. Bealer was twice married. By his first union there were six children: Elmer J. C.; Albert, who died in Jackson, Tennessee, in 1882; John, of Gage county, Nebraska; Elizabeth, the deceased wife of John E. Grove, of Danforth, Iowa; Mary, the deceased wife of Henry Headlichka, of Oxford, Iowa; and Henry, a farmer of Johnson county. For his second wife the father married Catherine Brigle, and their children were: Sadie, who became the wife of Frank Puterbaugh and died in 1900; Luella, the wife of Louis Georgian, of Clinton, Missouri; Dora, who became the wife of Albert Cramer and died in May, 1900; and Ellis, who died at the age of four years.

Elmer J. C. Bealer, left motherless at the age of twelve years, started out in life on his own account and together with his father was employed by the firm of Doty & Madden, driving a team and doing a man's work for four years for his board and clothing and the privilege of attending school three months in the winter. One summer he received ten dollars per month as a farm hand and spent the following winter at home. He took his first contract in the spring of 1862, digging a well, and on the 14th of June of that year, when a youth of seventeen, he offered his services to the government, joining the boys in blue of Company A, Twenty-second Iowa Volunteer Infantry. The regiment went into camp at Clinton in July and there he contracted measles, and a relapse caused him to remain at Iowa City from August until the 14th of September. He was both the first and last man in the regiment to whom medicine was issued, but in the meantime was never on the sick roll. He was mustered into the United States service September 9, 1862, and from that time on his military record is as follows: left Iowa City for Davenport, September 14, 1862; arrived at St. Louis, September 18, 1862; left St. Louis, September 22, 1862; arrived at Raleigh, September 23, 1862; left Raleigh, December 20, 1862; arrived at West Plains, February 2, 1863; left West Plains, February 9, 1863; arrived at Iron Mountain, February 26, 1863; left Iron Mountain, March 9, 1863; arrived at St. Genevieve, March 12, 1863; left St. Genevieve, March 27, 1863; arrived at Millikins Bend, April 3, 1863; left Millikins Bend, April 24, 1863; arrived at Richmond, April 25; left Richmond, April 26; arrived above Grand Gulf, April 29; marched during the night below Grand Gulf; went on board transports the morning of April 30; started down the river and landed at Hard Scrabble on the east side of the river; went into first battle, May 1, 1863, at Port Gibson and arrived at Willow Springs, May 7; battle at Richmond, May 10; battle of Jackson and evacuation, May 14;



battle of Champion's Hill, May 16; battle of Black River, May 17; arrived at Vicksburg in the afternoon of May 19; took position in line in the rear of A. J. Smith's division, May 20; charge on Vicksburg, May 22; siege lasted until July 4; started for Jackson, July 5; arrived at Jackson, July 9; Jackson was evacuated by the Confederates, July 16; started back to Vicksburg, July 20; arrived at Vicksburg, July 26; went into camp on Heights below Vicksburg and stayed there until the 14th of August; started down the river to New Orleans; went into camp at Carleton above New Orleans, August 15; camped at New Orleans until September 4; started for Brazier City, Louisiana, and went into camp in and about Brazier City until November 3; started up the Tash country, November 3; marched to Opalussies; stayed two or three days and marched back to Brazier City; took cars for New Orleans; took ocean steamers at New Orleans, November 29; started for Brownsville, Texas; could not land on account of a storm; landed at Mustang island, December 14; went into camp; then marched up Matagorda island the latter part of December; moved across the bay to DeCrows Point; then took steamers and went up the bay to old Indianola; camped there two or three weeks; then marched up to New Indianola and stayed there until March 19; then took steamers for Matagorda island, where they arrived the same day; went into camp and began building earthworks across the island; stayed in this camp until April 29; took steamers for New Orleans, where they arrived May 2; immediately took transports and went up Red river as far as Fort Drussie to reinforce Banks but found his army in retreat; General Lawle was wanted to take his brigade down the river to Bioshavalio, where he was ordered to build a pontoon bridge, which he did out of steamers placing them side by side thirty-three in number and made a crossing on the bow of these boats; stayed in this camp until all of the army had passed; then marched down the Rio to Morganza Bend, where they went into camp; lay there to June 7; then took transports; went down the river to Baton Rouge; arrived there on June 7; stayed in camp one month to July 7; took transports and went down the river to Algiers on the west side opposite New Orleans; went into camp until July 16; then took transports on ocean steamers: arrived at Fortress Monroe on July 23; went up the James river to Bermuda Hundred and returned; went into Ben Butler's line of works and stayed until July 31; took steamers for Washington; arrived at Washington, August 1; marched up Pennsylvania avenue and camped near the Baltimore & Ohio Railway depot; then marched to Tannleytown west of Washington until July 14; then took up march for the Shenandoah valley to join General Sheridan's army; went into camp and the next day marched down the Shenandoah valley to Bolivar Heights, which is three miles from Harper's Ferry; formed a line of battle and went into camp, laying there about three weeks waiting for reinforcements; then marched up the valley to Berryville; went into camp; built temporary works; lay there until the night of September 18; took up march toward Winchester; fought the battle of Winchester on the 19th; fought the battle of Fisherhill on the 21st; followed the Confederates up the valley as far as Crawfordsville; camped there about one week; then retreated down the valley to Cedar Creek; built earthworks and lay in camp until October 19, where they were attacked by Early the morning of the 19th; lay in camp until November 9, when they moved to Camp Russell near Winchester; from Camp Russell they moved down the valley to about five miles below Winchester, which was a point where the railway had been in repair and operation; lay in this camp until January 7; then took cars and went to Baltimore; lay in camp there until 16th, took ocean steamers at Baltimore; arrived at the mouth of the Savannah river, January 20; went up the Savannah river in lighters; arrived at Savannah on the same day; lay in camp about two months; took ocean steamers: went to Morehead City, North Carolina, to open a base of supplies for Sherman's army; lay in this camp until May 9; took ocean steamers





for Savannah, Georgia; started from Savannah, Georgia, May 13; arrived at Augusta, Georgia, May 20; took up camp in South Carolina across the river the same day; lay there until June 20, when they started to march back to Savannah, Georgia, arriving there on June 26; lay in this camp about three weeks waiting for transports home; took ocean steamer for Baltimore, Maryland; arrived in Baltimore, July 17; then took cars for Davenport, Iowa, where they arrived July 22; lay in camp until August 3, when they were mustered out of the service; arrived at Iowa City, August 4, 1865, where they were once again citizens without a uniform.

When the war was over Mr. Bealer returned home and began teaming for his father, who was getting out stone for the public library building at Iowa City. He continued in his father's employ until the spring of 1867, but in the previous October took his first contract for cut stone on his own responsibility, and in the following spring began business for himself, furnishing both building and cut stone from what was known as the capital quarry in Johnson county. In the spring of 1873 he was awarded a twenty-five thousand dollar contract for macadamizing the streets of Iowa City and the following year took a contract for building ten bridges in Johnson county at a cost of eighteen thousand dollars. He continued in bridge building until 1878, when he removed to Cedar Rapids and began business here. Two years later he graded and macadamized the Oak Hill cemetery. He has the unique honor of having built more yards of bridges than any man living or dead in Iowa.

In March, 1881, Mr. Bealer began contracting in Cedar Rapids with a capital of only one hundred dollars. With that as a working basis he took a contract amounting to one hundred and two thousand dollars on the construction of the St. Louis, Hannibal & Keokuk Railroad. He secured this contract at a lower price than was named by three other contractors who had failed to complete the work, but Mr. Bealer is a man of undaunted energy and what he undertakes he accomplishes. His vocabulary contains no such word as fail. He made the venture a success and it established his reputation as one of the leading contractors of this part of the country. He next graded and macadamized the addition to Oak Hill cemetery and in the fall of 1883 laid the foundation for the Masonic Library. He also became interested that year in the masonry work for the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railroad, his first contract being the bridge across the Shell river near Northwood, while in 1884 he built a bridge across the Cedar river near Cedar Bluffs on the Clinton division of the same road. In 1884 he opened the Cedar Valley quarry, from which he made his first shipment on the 29th of November of that year. He has shipped altogether sixty-six thousand carloads of stone from his quarry, which Samuel Calvin, state geologist of Iowa, said is "in many respects one of the most notable and interesting in the entire state." The whole thickness of the quarry stone is more than one hundred and sixteen feet. The quarry is opened in the right bank of the Cedar river and has been carried downward over an area of three hundred feet long and one hundred and twenty-five feet wide until the bottom of the quarry is about sixty feet below the water level of the adjacent river. The Cedar Valley quarry is most thoroughly equipped with modern machinery and all the apparatus needed in operating it according to the most modern methods. In fact, according to Iowa's state geologist "this quarry is more thoroughly and expensively equipped with labor-saving machinery for taking out and handling stone than any other within the limits of Iowa." Whenever an old appliance can be replaced by one more effective it is done, regardless of the initial expense, the purpose being to reduce operating expenses to a minimum. That this purpose is accomplished will be admitted by anyone who sees with how little expenditure of time and with how little apparent effort the great blocks of stone are detached from the native ledge and car after car is loaded and made ready to be dispatched to distant markets. Thus, begin-





ning with a capital of one hundred dollars Mr. Bealer is conducting one of the most extensive and important quarrying and contracting enterprises in this section of the country and the business is one which proves a general source of profit by furnishing employment to many workmen, while at the same time it is bringing to him substantial prosperity for his labor. In addition to his other interests Mr. Bealer was one of the promoters of the Cedar Rapids Canning Company, of which he is now president, and is a stockholder and director of the Citizens National Bank, while formerly he was a director of the Merchants National Bank.

On the 27th of October, 1867, Mr. Bealer was married to Mrs. Mary C. Erb, who was born in Winchester, Virginia, June 20, 1842. Her first husband, Benjamin Erb, died in 1864, leaving a son, L. L. Erb, who is now serving as foreman in Mr. Bealer's quarries in Cedar Valley. Mrs. Bealer, who bore the maiden name of Mary C. Stephens, is related to Thaddeus Stephens, who died in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and who was a brother of her grandfather. At the age of fifteen she came west, her parents having died when she was quite young. She is a lady of marked intellectual vigor as well as of attractive social qualities. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bealer have been born three children: Orpha D., who was born February 22, 1870, and is now the wife of John M. Grimm, a lawyer of Cedar Rapids; Millard Y., who was born September 10, 1874, and is superintendent of his father's quarries; and Jessie G., born June 9, 1877.

Mr. Bealer holds membership in Crescent Lodge, No. 25, F. & A. M., and also with T. Z. Cook Post, No. 235, G. A. R., of which he has served as commander. He was one of the trustees and chairman of the building committee of the Old Ladies Home and in March, 1898, was elected a school director for three years and was made chairman of the finance and building committees. He was on the school board for six years, during which period he built and remodeled more than half of the schoolhouses in Cedar Rapids. He was the only Protestant member of the building committee of the Mercy Hospital and still holds a position on its board of directors. A stalwart advocate of the republican party, he was elected to the legislature, serving during the twenty-ninth, thirtieth and thirty-first general assemblies. The bill known as house file No. 155, of which he was the author, has the distinction of having been the only bill ever passed under like circumstances. It passed the house and senate without a dissenting vote and four absentees of the house and three in the senate placed themselves on record as having been in favor of the bill and would have voted for it had they been present. This bill provided for the erection of monuments and tablets on the Vicksburg National Military park to mark the positions occupied by Iowa brigades, regiments and batteries to commemorate the valor and services of Iowa soldiers in the campaign and siege of Vicksburg. Mr. Bealer presented the matter in most interesting speech before the house. He stated that seventy per cent of Iowa's gallant soldiers were at the siege of Vicksburg, gave reports of the number of men killed and wounded in the various military movements there and continued: "This was the cost of life for the preservation of the Union. Sixteen thousand, six hundred of these are buried at Vicksburg National cemetery, which will be within the park that our appropriation is intended to adorn. The park will be the greatest the world has ever seen for the reason that it is proposed to reproduce the Confederate and Federal works as they were during the siege and mount the guns identically as they were during the war. Ought not this great state of Iowa, with its broad fertile fields, its manufacturing establishments, its enormous wealth, its culture and refinement, pay a fit tribute of respect and love to the memory of her fallen heroes on that southern field of carnage? Ought she not to give liberally, that enduring monuments may mark deeds of valor and heroism; monuments which in all time to come will foster in the hearts and minds of rising generations a proper measure of patriotism and fidelity to the sacred



principle of the republic; monuments which will speak more eloquently than mortal tongue of the patriotism, appreciation and gratitude of Iowa citizenship? Iowa was first to land on Mississippi soil in the Vicksburg campaign; she was first in the throes of battle, and hers were the only troops that succeeded in breaking the Confederate line entering the works. Iowa has always held a proud position in national affairs and has occupied a unique position in point of education and morals. Ought she not to add new laurels to her past and present greatness by showing to the world, in this unique and substantial manner, her gratitude to those brave boys, who left behind them all that was near and dear on earth, to suffer for the country and the country's cause, the pangs and agonies of cruel war, and who, amidst the boom of cannon and the roar of musketry, laid their lives upon their country's altar?"

Mr. Bealer is known as an entertaining and logical speaker upon questions of general public interest or upon themes of political concern. When any question affecting the welfare of Cedar Rapids is under consideration he throws the weight of his influence on the side of progress and improvement. He has proven his patriotism and his loyalty in citizenship no less in the halls of legislation than on the field of battle; he has won success honorably and has worthily used it. Quiet and unostentatious in his charity, nevertheless the poor have frequently shared in his success. His life record taken in its most important phases presents an example that is, indeed, well worthy of emulation and is a splendid exposition of upright, honorable American manhood and chivalry.

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#### ALVIN L. PALMER

One of the younger agriculturists of Linn county who is making a success of farming is Alvin L. Palmer, who operates a good sixty-eight acre farm in Spring Grove township. He has been a resident of the county but two years, although he is a native of Iowa, his birth having occurred in Clinton county, September 23, 1876.

His parents, John and Sarah (Davis) Palmer, were formerly residents of Ohio, from which state they came to Iowa in 1862, locating in Jackson county. The father was a native of Ohio, while the mother was a native of Indiana. When first they came to Iowa they bought eighty acres of farm land in Jackson county and cultivated it for several years. Then they removed into Clinton county, where John Palmer had purchased eighty acres shortly before. Ten years later the father again bought land, securing an adjoining eighty acres which was cultivated in conjunction with the place first purchased. He continued to reside there until his death, which occurred January 14, 1909, his wife having passed away December 5, 1906.

Alvin L. Palmer remained with his parents, working upon their several farms until he had attained the age of twenty-one years. In 1897 he started out to make his own way in life, working by the month for farmers throughout the district. For nearly eight years he worked in this manner, gradually accumulating a sum of money. Then he decided to farm for himself, so rented the old home place for three years and operated it alone. Accumulating a sufficient sum, he left Clinton county in 1908 and came to Linn, purchasing the A. J. Iehl farm in Spring Grove township, of sixty-eight acres of splendid land. This farm, which was in a fair condition when he purchased it, is now in excellent shape and is one of the most prolific in the township. The fields and buildings are well improved and it has been greatly enhanced in value since its present owner took charge.



On the 12th of December, 1906, Alvin L. Palmer and Miss Loretta C. Hanson were united in marriage. Mrs. Palmer is a daughter of Loran and Mary (Raun) Hanson, residents of this county but natives of Germany, from which country they came to America quite early in life.

Mr. Palmer was the recipient of a good education in the common school branches of learning as taught in the Clinton county schools and is an able business man in every respect. He is allied with the republican party in national affairs but takes no part in local politics other than to vote, devoting his time and energy to the care of his farm. Mrs. Palmer affiliates with the German Lutheran church, and both she and her husband are numbered among the best citizens of the community in which they reside.

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### JAMES M. CARL

James M. Carl, chief of police of Cedar Rapids and long widely known in railway circles, was born in Waterloo, Iowa, February 8, 1870, and is a son of James W. and Mary E. (Summers) Carl. The father was a native of Ohio, and the mother of Cascade, Dubuque county, Iowa. She was a daughter of Peter Summers, one of the pioneer settlers of Dubuque county, to which district he removed his family in the '40s. Following the discovery of gold in California, he joined the great band of men who crossed the plains to the mines in 1849, and there met with success in his search for the precious metal. After three years spent on the Pacific coast he rejoined his family in Cascade, Iowa, where he was considered a wealthy man for his day.

James W. Carl, father of James M. Carl, came to Iowa in his early manhood with his parents who settled on Elk Run in Black Hawk county. His father was Mathew Carl, who was born in Kentucky and was there reared and married, after which he removed to Ohio, settling in Akron. Late in the '30s or early in the '40s he made his way to Iowa and was one of the first to settle in this state. Iowa was still a territory at that time, having not yet been admitted to the Union. Much of the land was still owned by the government and was covered with the native prairie grasses, but the early settlers were fast establishing homes and farms, and Mathew Carl aided in the work of general development and improvement. He spent his last years at the home of one of his daughters in Butler county, Iowa, where he died at the age of eighty-six years. His son James W. Carl was a carpenter by trade but after his marriage was engaged for a time in farming, owning a tract of land in Black Hawk county. Later he disposed of his farm and purchased city property in Waterloo, to which place he removed. There he carried on contracting and building, with which he was prominently identified during his latter life. He was a builder of the Eagle Mills in Waterloo, and also other important buildings in that city. His life was an active and useful one, and he was numbered among the leading representatives of industrial interests in that place. His death occurred in 1882 at the age of fifty-eight years. His widow afterward became the wife of William Powell and is now living in Macey, Indiana. Her first husband had returned to Indiana in 1874 and had settled near Rochester, where he built a sawmill, which he operated in connection with contracting and building.

James M. Carl was only twelve years old at the time of his father's death. He remained at home for two years thereafter, and his attention was given to the farm work. In 1884 he started for the western country believing that he might have better business opportunities in that section of the country. He made his way to Helena, Montana, and from the age of fourteen years depended entirely upon his own resources. He was employed as the first news agent that ever ran





between Helena and Spokane on the Northern Pacific Railroad and filled that position for three years. He then joined the army, and enlisted in the Seventh United States Cavalry, which was stationed at Fort Missoula. Soon afterward he was placed on detached duty as provost sergeant in charge of the department prison at Fort Snelling, Minnesota. He served in that capacity for five years, during which time he learned something relative to the handling of convicts and criminals, which has made him known as an able and efficient police officer outside of Cedar Rapids.

In 1892 Mr. Carl became again connected with railroad service, and after running out of St. Paul for a short time went to Great Falls, Montana, and for seven years was identified with the Great Northern Railway Company, serving successively as brakeman, conductor and yardmaster. In August, 1899, he came to Cedar Rapids and entered the employ of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railroad Company, acting as brakeman until 1902, when the road was merged in the Rock Island system. Mr. Carl was then made chairman of the general board of adjustment by the trainmen of the Rock Island line, in which capacity he served until May, 1908. He had to travel about seven thousand miles per month, and as his duties were telling on his health he resigned his position. On the first of that month he was appointed under the new city administration as chief of police and entered upon the duties of this position. Under his guidance the police system has been thoroughly reorganized and its efficiency greatly promoted. He stands firmly for law and order and such is his rule that the criminals and law breakers now give Cedar Rapids a wide berth.

On the 7th of March, 1906, Mr. Carl was married to Miss Antoinette Ledgewood, a daughter of William H. and Helen S. Ledgewood, of Cedar Rapids, and in this city they have many friends. Mr. Carl belongs to several fraternal organizations, holding membership in Cedar Rapids Lodge, No. 251, B. P. O. E.; Cedar Rapids Lodge, No. 278, A. O. U. W.; Muskwaki Tribe, No. 110, I. O. R. M.; Cedar Rapids Aerie, No. 149, F. O. E.; Twin City Lodge, No. 56, the Order of Railway Trainmen. He belongs to the Iowa Association of Police, the International Association of Police and the National Bureau of Criminal Identification. He ranks with the city's most competent, capable and trustworthy officials. Throughout his entire life he has been loyal to the duties entrusted to his care, and the interests of law and order in Cedar Rapids are now carefully conserved by him.

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### GEORGE D. CLARK

General farming and stock-raising interests claim the attention and energies of George D. Clark, who was born in Benton county, Iowa, January 9, 1862, but now makes his home on section 28, Putnam township, Linn county. He was the sixth son of Thomas W. and Margaret (Andrews) Clark, the former a native of Scotland and the latter of Ireland. The father was born in 1816, and his life record covered the intervening years to June, 1904. His wife, who was born in 1820, died in January, 1904. On leaving Great Britain they crossed the Atlantic to Canada about 1855 and in 1860 removed to the state of New York, where they resided until 1866, when they came to Linn county, Iowa, settling on a tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres on section 28, Putnam township. They were among the early residents of that district and the father took an active and helpful interest in developing the region in which he established his home. In their family are two sons and two daughters who are yet living while three sons have passed away.



At the usual age George D. Clark became a pupil in the public schools and therein continued his studies to the age of eighteen years, after which he concentrated his energies upon farm work, to which he had been trained from early youth, assisting in the development and cultivation of the farm throughout the periods of vacation. He worked with his father until twenty-one years of age, when he started out in life for himself, renting part of his father's farm. He continued to cultivate the land until the death of his parents, when he received eighty acres as his share of the estate, this tract comprising the old homestead. He is now busily engaged in general farming and stock-raising, realizing that unfaltering diligence is the basis of all success. He breeds and raises high grade cattle and horses and has some good stock upon his place. The farm presents a neat and attractive appearance because of the careful supervision which he gives to it and the practical and progressive methods which he follows.

On the 18th of February, 1889, Mr. Clark was united in marriage to Miss Mary Vittengel, a daughter of John and Josephine (Myers) Vittengel, who were farming people of Putnam township, coming to this country from Bohemia in 1869. The mother is still living in Ely at the age of fifty-six years, her birth having occurred in 1854, but the father died twenty years ago. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Clark have been born five children: Charles C., born August 18, 1890, now working on his father's farm; Claud A., born June 5, 1893; Minnie J., born September 17, 1899; Gladys E., born February 15, 1904, and Thomas J., born August 21, 1906.

Mr. Clark is a member of Ely Lodge, No. 581, I. O. O. F., and his wife is connected with the Rebekah degree. He also belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp and gives his political endorsement to the men and measures of the democratic party. The family attend the Lutheran church at Ely and are well known in the community where they have a circle of friends almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintance. Mr. Clark has spent his entire life in Iowa and farm work has occupied his attention from his youthful days to the present, bringing him the success which is now his.

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#### HON. STEPHEN L. DOWS

The life history of Hon. Stephen L. Dows is no less thrilling and interesting than the history of the marvelous development of the west to which few men contributed more largely and beneficially than he during the years of his active and strenuous business career. Pioneer, soldier, capitalist, legislator and philanthropist, he impressed his individuality deeply upon Iowa and her upbuilding during the many years in which he was prominently identified with the most important business interests of Cedar Rapids and the state. That the public recognized the worth of his labors is indicated by the fact that the town of Dows, in Wright county, was named in his honor. Many miles of railroad were built by him and his labors therefore contributed in substantial measure to opening up the territory of this state to the advancing interests of civilization.

Mr. Dows is a representative of one of the old families of New England. The name was originally spelled Dowse. His ancestry in America is traced back to Laurence Dows, who was born in Boughton county, Hants, England, in 1613, and in 1642 established his home in Boston, Massachusetts, whence in 1649 he removed to Charlestown, Massachusetts, where his death occurred March 14, 1692. His son, Jonathan Dows, was born in Charlestown in 1661 and became a man of importance and high repute. He served as one of His Majesty's council and enjoyed the title of "Honorable." On the 27th of June, 1718, he was appointed justice of the court of common pleas and by reappointment continued to fill that position





until 1741. His son, Eleazer Dows, was born March 2, 1728, in Charlestown, Massachusetts, and was one of the patriots who on the 24th of November, 1773, signed the petition against the importation of tea. In 1775 during the battle of Bunker Hill and the burning of Charlestown his property was totally destroyed and the family fled to Sherborn, Massachusetts. His son, James Dows, and the grandfather of Stephen L. Dows, was born in Charlestown, April 28, 1769, and in January, 1813, enlisted under Captain Crooker and Colonel Larned of the Ninth United States Infantry for service in the war of 1812. On the 14th of April, 1814, he reenlisted and at the battle of Chippewa, Canada, he was wounded, after which he was carried to the military hospital, where he died August 10, 1814.

In early colonial history Thomas Dows, the second son of Jonathan Dows, was well known as the literary leather dresser of Cambridge. A man of most remarkable character, he was born at Charlestown in the midst of the Revolutionary excitement and from that place the family were forced to flee for their lives when the town was burned June 17, 1775. They went to Milliston and later to Sherborn, where his father resumed the business of leather dressing. Thomas Dows was an intimate friend and contemporary of Edward Everett. He was taught the leather dresser's trade by his father and throughout his life followed that business. His leisure hours, however, were devoted to reading and study and much of his earnings went to the purchase of books. He became an authority upon English literature and collected one of the finest private libraries in Massachusetts. Near the end of his life he donated his entire collection to the Massachusetts Historical Society to be forever kept by them in a separate room in a fire-proof building and to be used there and never removed. Thomas Dows was, moreover, a man of marked philanthropic spirit, his life being characterized by many kindly and charitable deeds. The Dows high school and the city hall at Sherborn stand as monuments to his memory and to his public spirit. He was the first in America to erect a monument to the immortal Benjamin Franklin. Mr. Dows met the expense of this from his private fortune and placed the monument in Mount Auburn. The Dows Institute at Cambridge also benefited greatly by his bequests, the income which he left thereto being used for a course of lectures, concerts and readings.

Adam Dows, a son of James Dows and the father of Stephen L. Dows, was born in Sherborn, Massachusetts, November 9, 1792, and in early manhood went to New York city, where he engaged in business. There he wedded Maria Lundy, a daughter of Captain Lundy, who died in China during the period of the war of 1812. In 1836 Adam Dows removed to Troy, New York, where he departed this life December 10, 1868. His mother was a Leland and belonged to a family as distinguished as the Dows. The ancestor of the American branch of the family was John Leland, who was born in London, England, in 1512, and was an accomplished scholar who flourished during the reign of Henry VII. Among his descendants were the Rev. Drs. John and Thomas Leland, famous authors and scholars of the eighteenth century. Henry Leland, progenitor of the American branch of the family, came to America and settled in Sherborn, Massachusetts, in 1652. His children, Experience, Hopetill, Ebenezer and Eleazer, became the ancestors of a numerous progeny and the family has contributed much to New England's history, furnishing hundreds of scholars and men eminent in the professions and in business life in all parts of the United States. John Leland was a distinguished Baptist minister and as early as 1798 at a general conference denounced slavery as a "violent depredation of the rights of nature."

Stephen Leland Dows, son of Adam and Maria (Lundy) Dows, was born in New York city, October 9, 1832, and when four years of age accompanied his parents to Troy, New York, where he acquired only a limited education in the public schools. At the age of fourteen he was apprenticed to the machinist's





trade, which he mastered with characteristic diligence and energy and then, aspiring to a wider field, decided to go west. He reached Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1848, with seventy cents as his total capital and with no definite plans for the future but determined and willing to seek and accept any honest employment. The subsequent years were full of hardships. He spent his first year in the lumber camp at Badenoquett, Michigan, where he worked for twelve dollars per month. He next crossed the peninsula and Lake Superior, going through the untraveled wilderness and arriving at Marquette, Michigan, in 1849. He was one of the first white men to pass the winter there. He found employment in the machine shops, running the first engine, and assisted in building the first steamer launched on Lake Superior. Two years later he returned to Badenoquett, where he again engaged in the lumber business, remaining until 1853, when he went to Muskegon as superintendent of a lumber mill. On the 12th of April, 1855, he came to Cedar Rapids and was afterward engaged in the sawmill and lumber business in Linn and Jones counties. Subsequently he served as superintendent of the Variety Manufacturing Company. Thus far his career had been one of untiring labor with little personal profit. He had gained largely in experience, however, and had come to be recognized as a capable and energetic man. His initiative spirit was also being developed and it was not long before he branched out into new fields that brought large and substantial returns. In 1860 he was drawn to Colorado by the discovery of gold at Pikes Peak, but following a year of rough prospecting he returned to Cedar Rapids.

In August, 1862, his patriotic spirit gaining the ascendancy of all else, Mr. Dows enlisted as a member of Company I, Twentieth Iowa Infantry, and was made first lieutenant. Later he was appointed acting brigade quartermaster of the First Brigade, Second Division, Army of the Frontier. He was forced to leave the service through illness brought on by exposure and overwork and after returning from the war he began railroad building under contract, and in this field reaped the reward of years of previous labor and experience. As a railroad builder he contributed in substantial measure to the improvement of the state. No other one agency constitutes as valuable a factor in opening up a district and in furthering its interests, for through railroad communication the settler is brought into close touch with other districts and is enabled to place his products upon the market and thereby gain returns for his effort. A rapidly growing fortune came to him, and he rose to the position of one of the most extensive and prosperous contractors of the west. Feeling absolutely sure of the future of the west, he invested extensively in tracts of land, many of which were converted into town sites in Iowa, Minnesota and Dakota. Able in the management of financial affairs, sagacious in his investments, he was also a man of unassailable honor and ever enjoyed the implicit confidence of those with whom he had business dealings. His opinions regarding investment were eagerly sought and when closely followed usually brought substantial returns. Mr. Dows made extensive investment in Cedar Rapids real estate and in 1874 built the Dows block which, when completed, was one of the finest office and business structures in the west. Self-made in the strictest sense of the term, cast on his own resources at the age of nineteen years, he educated himself, became a skillful machinist and later developed into one of the most far-sighted business men Cedar Rapids has known. He was also largely interested in Cedar Rapids banks and served for many years as a director of various local financial institutions.

In his political views Mr. Dows was always a staunch republican. He served in the sixteenth and seventeenth general assemblies, to which he was first elected in 1875. He proved a legislator with few peers and did excellent service as a member of the committees on railroads, manufacture, appropriations and penitentiaries. He was the advocate of many progressive measures, some of which eventually found their way to the statute books of the state.



On the 31st of October, 1855, Mr. Dows was married to Miss Henrietta W. Safely, a daughter of Thomas Safely, of Waterford, New York. Mrs. Dows was born November 12, 1834, in Scotland, and was only two years of age when she came with her parents to America, the family home being established in Waterford, New York. She was a young lady of sixteen summers at the time of the removal of the family to Sugar Grove, Linn county, in 1851. Two years later she married Mr. Dows and after a year's residence in Mount Vernon they took up their abode in Cedar Rapids and established a home. Mrs. Dows passed away August 7, 1893, at the age of fifty-eight years. During her long residence here she was a prominent figure in the social, religious and charitable life of the city. She belonged to the First Presbyterian church, was a leader in all of its activities and was a generous contributor to worthy charities. It was her helping hand and wise counsel that safely guided many enterprises of great moment for the relief of the suffering and the betterment of the conditions of the worthy poor. To her distinguished husband she was at once wife, helper and confidant, and to her he often looked for valuable counsel. To her children she gave the most tender care, living for them in an unselfish devotion that has made the word "mother" the sweetest name the language knows.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Dows were born six children: Minnie Marie, who died at the age of fifteen years; Elma, the wife of Benjamin Thane, of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania; Elizabeth, the wife of Thompson McClintock, also of Pittsburg; Henrietta, the wife of James E. Blake, of Chicago; Stephen Leland, who died July 5, 1899; and William G., of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. The relations of the Dows home were largely ideal and after the death of his wife Mr. Dows gave to St. Luke's Hospital as a memorial to her the magnificent operating room with its equipment, said to be one of the finest in the United States.

Like his wife, Mr. Dows was ever deeply interested in that which worked for the betterment and advancement of the community. He was naturally an enthusiast in the cause of education, serving for many years as a trustee of Coe College of this city and of Cornell College at Mount Vernon. Fraternally he was a Knight Templar Mason and an Odd Fellow. He began with nothing, not once but several times, for he made and lost several fortunes before he gathered the last and largest one. He had worked and worked hard at anything that came to his hands from primitive railroad building to digging gold. He traveled Illinois and Iowa on foot because he had nothing with which to pay for conveyance; later he built railroads in every direction and did it at a time when the financing of such a project was a difficult problem. He frequently took what seemed like desperate chances, but his unusual business sagacity enabled him to be on the winning side. He served in the Civil war with distinction, for he was not too busy with private affairs to forget the duty which he owed to his country and to humanity. His life was typical of the great, growing west to which growth he contributed so largely. He was a man of action rather than of theory and with determined purpose carried forward to successful completion whatever he undertook, and in his death Cedar Rapids lost one of the most rugged, honest, capable and honorable men that the city has ever known.

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#### JOHN R. AMIDON

The personnel of the Security Savings Bank of Cedar Rapids is such as insures the safety of depositors and of investors. Its officers are men of tried integrity and worth, of broad business experience and of sound and discriminating judgment. In this connection John R. Amidon is well known as the vice president of the institution and thus active in the management of its affairs. He was born





in St. Joseph county, Michigan, May 29, 1840, and his youthful days were spent in the home of his parents, Henry and Mary (Rickert) Amidon. The father was a carpenter by trade and eventually carried on business as a contractor and builder. Arriving in Iowa in 1846, he spent eight months in Catese, Dubuque county, and then took up his abode in the city of Dubuque, there residing until 1850, when he went to American Bar, California. He realized the fact that the discovery of gold on the coast and the great emigration to that country would cause a stimulus and activity in all lines of trade and wisely concluded to become a factor in the building operations of the state. There he remained until his early death in 1852, and his wife survived him for only six years.

John R. Amidon was a youth of twelve years when his father passed away. At an early age he began working on a Michigan farm and some time later secured a position in a general store belonging to his uncle in Shullsburg, Wisconsin, remaining in that employ until the business was sold in 1858. Realizing that his lack of education hampered his progress, Mr. Amidon then attended school for a year and in 1860 crossed the plains. That summer was spent in work in the mines at Mountain City, Colorado, and in the succeeding fall he returned to Shullsburg, Wisconsin, where he remained until the spring of 1861.

Hardly had the smoke of Fort Sumter's guns cleared away when, on the 19th of April, he enlisted for service in the Union army as a member of Company I, Third Wisconsin Infantry, with which he remained on active duty during the entire period of hostilities, being home only for a thirty days' furlough. He rose to the rank of second lieutenant and was made quartermaster sergeant at Atlanta in 1864. Early in 1865 he was promoted to the second lieutenancy and transferred to Company B, with which he remained until honorably discharged on the 18th of July, of that year. He had participated in the battles of Chancellorsville, Antietam, Gettysburg and other important engagements, which were elements in the success that finally crowned the Union arms. He also went with Sherman on the march to the sea and was present at the surrender of Johnson. His military record was altogether creditable, being characterized by the faithful performance of every duty, whether it called him to the firing line or stationed him on the lonely picket line.

After leaving the army Mr. Amidon went to Minneapolis and secured a position in a dry-goods house, where he spent the winter. In the spring of 1866 he visited his sisters in Michigan and about a year and a half later removed to Galena, Illinois, where he secured a clerkship, there remaining until 1869. During that same year in Blainstown, Iowa, in company with A. F. Allen, he organized what is now the Benton County State Bank, which, however, was originally conducted as a private banking institution under the firm name of Allen & Amidon. In October, 1873, Mr. Amidon sold his interest in the bank to his partner and in the following November came to Cedar Rapids, with the interests of which city he has now been connected for thirty-seven years. He purchased the implement business of A. T. Averill, and in company with John T. Hamilton conducted the enterprise with growing and gratifying success until 1891, when he withdrew from that field of activity. At length he purchased stock in the City National Bank, was made assistant cashier and also became a member of the board of directors. Later, when the bank was merged into the Citizens National Bank, he was one of the organizers of the new institution and was chosen vice president, while later he was elected to the presidency, in which capacity he was serving at the time he disposed of his interest in May, 1908. On the organization of the Security Savings Bank he became the owner of considerable stock in that institution and was elected vice president, which office he has since filled. He is also treasurer of the Cedar Rapids Canning Company and is numbered with those men whose business enterprise and industry are features in the general growth and prosperity of the city.





In 1871 Mr. Amidon was married to Miss Nancy Potwin, of Shullsburg, Wisconsin, and they became parents of four children, but only two are living. The elder, Mary Irene, is a graduate of the University of Michigan and is now librarian of Coe College. The younger daughter, Helen B., is yet at home.

Mr. Amidon belongs to Cresecent Lodge, No. 25, A. F. & A. M., and to the Knights of Pythias lodge, and is a member of the Loyal Legion. Stalwart in his republican views, he served for two years as a member of the city council. He maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in T. Z. Cook Post, No. 235, G. A. R., and for one term served as its commander. He is today as true and loyal to his duties of citizenship as when he followed the old flag on southern battlefields. The same spirit of fidelity has characterized him in his relations to the city and in his business life, making him trustworthy and honored, the consensus of public opinion placing him with Cedar Rapids's valued and representative citizens.

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### GARRETT YONKERS

Garrett Yonkers, deceased, was a native of Holland, born on the 28th of May, 1850, and in that land of dikes his parents spent their entire lives. He continued a resident of Holland until nineteen years of age and during that time enjoyed the benefits of a college training. Leaving home in early manhood he sought the opportunities of the new world, having heard favorable reports concerning the advantages here offered. Crossing the Atlantic he first located in Michigan and about 1870 came to Cedar Rapids, where he was connected with the construction of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railroad, acting as paymaster. Later he was connected with the Santa Fe line in Kansas and subsequently embarked in the hardware and lumber business, in which he was very successful. In 1891 he returned to Cedar Rapids and became associated as manager with the Eaton Hardware store, with which he was connected until his death.

On the 3d of December, 1874, Mr. Yonkers was married to Miss Lila Cooley, who was born in Milton, Vermont, and was a daughter of J. P. and Elizabeth (Cavanaugh) Cooley. Her mother was born in Ireland and came to the United States with her parents in her childhood days. Mr. Cooley was a native of the state of Vermont and there resided until some years after his marriage. In 1871 he came to Cedar Rapids, and, being satisfied that he would do well to locate here, he sent for his family the following year. For a time he was employed as a conductor on the railroad and later engaged in contract work, leading a busy and useful life until called to his final rest on the 22d of August, 1882. His widow still survives and is living in Cedar Rapids at the age of seventy-seven years. In the family of this worthy couple there were nine children, of whom seven are yet living.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Yonkers a daughter and son have been born: Grace F., who is a graduate of the high school; and Harry P., who is also receiving a high school education and is studying engineering. They are both at home with their mother, who owns a fine residence at No. 1049 Fifth avenue and another at 530 Coben Court. Mrs. Yonkers is a member of the Presbyterian church and her social position wins for her a cordial reception in many of the best homes of the city.

Mr. Yonkers was a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and also of the Modern Woodmen of America. His political views were in harmony with the principles of the republican party and he took an active interest in furthering its growth and promoting its success, but never sought nor desired



office for himself. His death occurred April 7, 1894. The words citizenship and duty were never to him idle terms. He faithfully performed every public service that devolved upon him and met every obligation of social and home life. He was loyal in friendship and devoted to the welfare of his family, and where the question of right and wrong was involved his position was never an equivocal one, his influence ever being given on the side of justice and right.

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#### GARRETSON LYON CARHART, M. D.

Dr. Garretson Lyon Carhart was at the time of his death, which occurred on the 20th of April, 1910, one of the oldest residents of Linn county, having passed the eighty-sixth milestone on life's journey. He came to this county in 1855 and for many years was prominently identified with its professional interests as a physician and surgeon, his home being in Marion. His birth occurred in Bethlehem township, Albany county, New York, on the 28th of February, 1824, his parents being Robert D. and Catharine (Rowe) Carhart. The father, who was a tanner by trade, took up his abode in the Empire state at an early age. There the Doctor was reared and obtained his more specifically literary education in the schools of Albany and also of Jonesville, Saratoga county. In 1844 he attended the Albany Academy and the following year commenced the study of medicine with Dr. James P. Boyd, of that city. He was graduated from the Albany Medical College in February, 1848, and began the practice of his chosen profession in Wyoming county, New York. While there he married Miss Bertha Bancroft, a relative of the noted historian, George Bancroft, their wedding being celebrated on the 27th of March, 1850.

It was in 1855 that Dr. Carhart came to the Mississippi valley, driving across the country from Chicago to Mount Vernon, Iowa, where he practiced his profession until his removal to Marion in 1872. In the meantime, when this country became involved in civil war, he enlisted in defense of the Union, being commissioned surgeon of the Thirty-first Iowa Volunteer Infantry, October 13, 1862. He was subsequently made chief surgeon of the Fourth Division, Fifteenth Army Corps, serving under Colonel Smyth in Sherman's army, and participated in about twenty engagements. After two years of service he was compelled to resign, however, on account of failing health and resumed private practice in Mount Vernon, where he continued to make his home, as previously stated, until coming to Marion in 1878. In this city he likewise enjoyed an extensive and lucrative patronage, proving himself fully able to cope with the intricate problems which continually confront the physician in his efforts to restore health and prolong life.

While a resident of Mount Vernon Dr. Carhart lost his first wife, and of the three children born to them the two sons have also passed away, the only one now living being his daughter, Martha Eunice, who is the wife of Charles Hughes, of Dubuque, and has two children, Ralph and Garretson. In 1871 the Doctor was again married, his second union being with Miss Elizabeth Dickson Spearman, of Manchester, Iowa, who still survives him, together with their only child, William G., now a practicing physician of Marion. The son was graduated from the University of Michigan in 1904 and has been engaged in practice in Marion since the 1st of October, 1907. He was married July 12, 1899, to Miss Harriet M. Bell, a daughter of James Bell, one of the pioneers of Linn county, and to them has been born a daughter, Margaret E., whose birth occurred June 5, 1900.

Dr. Carhart continued in the active practice of medicine until 1887, when he retired and spent his last years in ease and quiet. At the age of thirteen he was converted and united with the Methodist Episcopal church, with which he re-



mained an active member, exemplifying its teachings in his daily life. The interests of the church were always dear to him and he did all in his power to advance the moral welfare of the community, being especially active in educational and temperance reform. As one of the trustees of Cornell College he was instrumental in building up that institution at an early day and was officially connected with the church for over half a century. He maintained pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in Mitchell Post, G. A. R., and was prominent in its affairs. In citizenship he was as faithful to his country as when he followed the old flag on southern battlefields and public opinion, which seldom errs, placed him in the front rank among those deserving of the admiration and respect of their fellowmen.

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#### WALTER STANSBY KING, M. D.

Dr. Walter Stansby King, a prominent physician and surgeon of Cedar Rapids, was born in that city on the 19th of September, 1871, and is a son of David W. King and a grandson of David W. King, Sr., who was the first settler on the west side of the river. That section of the city which for many years bore the name of Kingston was so called in his honor. He came from Michigan to Iowa, arriving here on the 18th of June, 1839. The journey was made with ox-teams, the family camping and cooking by the wayside. He found on his arrival nearly a thousand Indians encamped on the bank of the Cedar river. He built a home directly opposite the island and at one time owned practically all of what is now west Cedar Rapids. He also established the first ferry across the river and operated it for many years. His wife bore the maiden name of Mary A. Singer and was the first white woman to become a resident of the west side. The death of David W. King, Sr., occurred in 1854, when he was but forty-five years of age.

Dr. King of this review acquired his early education in the public schools of Cedar Rapids and was graduated from the high school with the class of 1889. Having decided to enter the medical profession, he took a preparatory course at Cedar Rapids and then entered Rush Medical College in Chicago in 1891 and graduated from that institution in 1894. He then opened an office in his native city in partnership with Dr. A. H. Johnson, which connection has existed up to the present time. He has met with excellent success in his chosen life work and is today regarded as one of the most prominent and progressive physicians and surgeons of the city.

On the 17th of January, 1906, Dr. King was united in marriage to Miss Mabel C. Gravatt of Traer, Iowa. She is a granddaughter of Ones Gravatt, who was born in London, England, and married Sarah Howick, a daughter of Stephen Howick, who was also born in London. Albert Gravatt, the father of Mrs. King, was a native of Celina, Ohio, and, having arrived at years of maturity, he married Irene F. Morse, a daughter of Charles and Esther (Lane) Morse, both whom were natives of Maine. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Gravatt are now residents of Traer. Their daughter Mabel, who became the wife of Dr. King, is a graduate of St. Luke's Hospital Training School for Nurses, in Cedar Rapids.

The Doctor is very popular both in social and fraternal circles and is today an honored member of the Linn County Medical Society, the Iowa Union Medical Society, the Iowa State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. He also belongs to Mount Herman Lodge, No. 263, A. F. & A. M.; Trowel Chapter, No. 49, R. A. M.; Apollo Commandery, No. 26, Knights Templar; Iowa Consistory, No. 2, A. & A. S. R.; El Kahir Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., and holds membership in the Modern Woodmen Camp and the Maccabee Lodge, being also connected with the Cedar Rapids Country Club and the Cedar Rapids Automobile Club.





His principal recreations are shooting and motoring and he is an enthusiast on the subject of the automobile. His political support is given to the republican party and he is now serving as coroner of Linn county, to which office he was elected in 1907. He is preeminently a man of affairs and one who has wielded a wide influence as a physician who stands high in the regard of his professional brethren and his genial manner has made him popular wherever known.

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#### FRANCIS M. WOOD

Francis M. Wood, who has already won for himself a prominent place in the business circles of Cedar Rapids, is the president of the Iowa Auto Company and has attained a highly creditable measure of success for one of his years. His birth occurred in Anamosa, Iowa, on the 27th of December, 1884, his parents being Francis M. and Hattie (Weaver) Wood. The father, who followed general agricultural pursuits in Iowa throughout his entire business career, passed away in 1900. The mother still survives, however, and now makes her home in Cedar Rapids. Her children are four in number, as follows: Francis M., of this review; and Grant M., John C. and Nancy L., all of whom are attending school.

Francis M. Wood obtained his education in the grammar and high schools of Anamosa and Cedar Rapids, completing his studies in 1904. Immediately afterward he embarked in the line of activity with which he has since been identified, becoming a partner of Fred D. Weaver for the conduct of an automobile business. At the end of three years he sold his interest to Mr. Weaver and after a year of inactivity organized the Iowa Auto Company, of which he has since served as president. The other officers of the concern are P. H. Boyson and W. E. Dean, Jr., who act as treasurer and secretary respectively. The company's quarters are splendidly equipped in every particular and Mr. Wood is thoroughly familiar with the business in principle and detail. Since its inception the enterprise has enjoyed a steady growth and its success is attributable in large measure to the excellent business ability and keen discernment of the young man at its head. Mr. Wood belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and is also a member of the Commercial Club. He is popular in social and business circles alike and the circle of his friends is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

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#### B. F. MILLBURN

B. F. Millburn is the owner of the Maplewood Stock Farm, situated on section 23, Monroe township, and comprising one hundred and fifty-nine acres of rich and productive land. He was born in the township in which he still makes his home, on the 3d of August, 1874, and is a son of Isaac and Olivia (MacLaskey) Millburn. The father was one of the representative farmers of Linn county, where for many years he successfully carried on general agricultural pursuits. He was born at the head waters of the bay of Fundy, in the province of New Brunswick, August 12, 1818, and resided with his parents until twenty-one years of age. The following year he began to learn the millwright's trade with his brother-in-law, Oliver Dow, at Calais, Maine, and there continued for four years, during which time he gained a broad and practical knowledge of the business. Feeling that his educational training was not sufficient to enable him to cope with conditions in the business world in the manner he desired, he then entered the academy at Mount Allison, Sackville, New Brunswick, where he pursued a course



of study for eighteen months. The family still have his certificate received from that institution, indicating that he had completed certain branches taught there. In 1850 he arrived in Linn county, Iowa, and built the first sawmill in Monroe township. This he owned and operated for a quarter of a century and in all of his business undertakings, which were of wide scope, he met with more than ordinary success. He entered eighty acres of land and as the years passed he extended the boundaries of his property until he became the owner of four hundred and thirty-five acres, constituting a very valuable and productive farm. He also made investments in real estate in Cedar Rapids, his holdings thus becoming extensive and yielding to him a substantial income.

On the 28th of November, 1854, Isaac Millburn was united in marriage to Miss Olivia MacLaskey, also a native of New Brunswick. They traveled life's journey together for more than forty years and were then separated in the death of Mr. Millburn, in September, 1895. His widow still survives and now makes her home with her son, B. F. Millburn.

Upon the homestead farm in Monroe township B. F. Millburn was reared, early becoming familiar with the work of plowing, planting and harvesting, as he assisted his father in the operation of the farm. After attaining his majority he started out in life on his own account and the occupation to which he was reared he has followed as his life work. The farm upon which he now resides, on section 23, Monroe township, is a good tract of land of one hundred and fifty-nine acres, known as the Maplewood Stock Farm. It is adorned with some fine maple trees and hence its name. Here he is engaged in the raising of high grades of stock and is an excellent judge of the value of farm animals, so that he makes judicious purchases and profitable sales. He is systematic in carrying on his business and his energy and industry are the source of his success.

In 1901 Mr. Millburn married Miss Blanche Morris, who was born in Monroe township in 1875 and is a daughter of N. S. and Mary (Vaughn) Morris. Her mother is now deceased but the father is still living in Monroe township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Millburn three children have been born: Mildred M., Maud L. and Iris Pauline. Mrs. Millburn is a member of the Church of Christ. She presides with gracious hospitality over her home and extends to the many friends of the family a cordial welcome.

In his political views Mr. Millburn is an earnest republican and for three years has been township trustee, proving a capable and acceptable official in that office. He is well known to the residents of Linn county, having always resided within its borders, and his success is well merited in that his business affairs have ever been energetically and honorably conducted.

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#### L. G. HALL

L. G. Hall has been identified with the business interests of Coggon for many years and for the past twenty-three years has been engaged in the drug trade, in which connection he has become a well known and prosperous merchant. His birth occurred near Lima, Ohio, on the 15th of October, 1863, his parents being William and Mary Ellen (Manner) Hall, who were likewise natives of the Buckeye state. The year 1869 witnessed their arrival in Linn county, the family home being established on a farm in Jackson township. They reared six children, of whom five are still living. Both the parents are deceased, the mother passing away in 1885, while the father, surviving for many years, departed this life in 1906.

L. G. Hall spent the first six years of his life in the place of his nativity and was then brought to Linn county by his parents, since which time he has made his home in this section of the state. From his early youth until he attained his



majority he assisted his father in the work of the home farm, with the exception of the period that he attended the public schools and Coe College at Cedar Rapids. After leaving college he engaged in teaching for four terms but this not proving to his liking he sought success in the field of merchandising, being engaged as clerk in a general store for two years and a half. At the end of that time he opened a drug store in Coggon, the year of his entrance in this business being 1887. The same year he pursued a course in and was graduated from the National Institute of Pharmacy of Chicago and thus entered upon his business well equipped for the onerous and responsible duties which have since devolved upon him. In 1898 he erected a two-story brick building, in which he has since maintained his store, carrying a complete stock of drugs and druggist's sundries so that he is able to meet the demands of the general public in this line. He is an investor in Canada real estate, beside owning town lots in Cedar Rapids and Coggon, and he is likewise a director in the State Bank of Coggon. In business affairs his sagacity is keen and his judgment sound.

Mr. Hall was married on the 23d of November, 1887, the lady of his choice being Miss Inez E. Fleming, who was born in Otter Creek township, Linn county, in 1867, a daughter of William and Anna E. (Eastman) Fleming, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Ohio. Unto them were born seven children. The mother was called to her final rest in 1881 but the father still survives and yet makes his home in Otter Creek township. Prior to her marriage Mrs. Hall engaged in teaching for several years. She was a student of Marion high school at Marion and Tilford Academy at Vinton, Iowa. She has become the mother of two daughters and a son. Hazel W. is now a student in Mary Baldwin's Seminary in Virginia. Muriel M. died in July, 1907. The only son, D. W. McK., is at home.

In politics Mr. Hall is a staunch republican and has served on the town council in Coggon. He is also president of the school board in Coggon and ever takes a deep interest in the cause of education. He has attained high rank in Masonry, having taken the thirty-second degree, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Zion Presbyterian church. High and manly principles have characterized his entire life, winning for him a creditable position in the regard of his fellowmen.

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### CHARLES DENECKE

Various corporate interests have felt the stimulus of the activity and enterprise of Charles Denecke, who gives his attention chiefly, however, to the interests of the Denecke Department Store, one of the most important commercial enterprises of Cedar Rapids. He was born in Wood county, Ohio, June 20, 1856. His father, Herman D. Denecke, studied for the ministry in early life and later took up the study of medicine, but could not practice, owing to the fact that he was stricken with an affliction of his eyes in 1862. Thus being unable to continue in his profession, he turned his attention to farming. He married Miss Sophia Meha, a lady of German descent, and both are now deceased. There were three children in the family, two daughters and one son. One of the sisters is living, Mrs. Charles Sager, now a resident of Arizona.

The public schools afforded Charles Denecke his educational privileges. He continued his studies to the age of sixteen years and then entered Black's shoe store at Toledo, Ohio, being employed in that establishment for about a year and a half. He was afterward a clerk in the department store owned by La Salle, Cohen & Koch, in Toledo, Ohio, and during his ten years' connection therewith he gained comprehensive knowledge of the business, the line of goods required





and the methods of management. Moreover, he gave proof of his ability in such positive terms that he was advanced from a humble position through intermediate promotions until he became manager of his department.

Mr. Denecke's broad and varied experience constituted an excellent foundation upon which to build success when, in 1886, he came to Cedar Rapids and established his present store on a small scale in partnership with Christian Yetter, under the firm name of Denecke & Yetter. Something of the growth of the business is indicated by the fact that at first they employed only seven people and today employ about eighty. The partnership with Mr. Yetter was dissolved in 1901 and the store is now the property of Mr. Denecke, who conducts it under the name of the Denecke Department Store. It is one of the finest and largest in Cedar Rapids, a large and attractive line of goods being carried. Content with a reasonable profit, seeking his success along the legitimate lines of trade, Mr. Denecke has ever commanded the respect of his colleagues, and his business integrity is one of many enviable characteristics, for he has never made engagements that he has not filled nor incurred obligations that he has not met. Aside from his connection with mercantile interests he is the president of the Hawkeye Skirt Company, a director of the Commercial National Bank, of the Barton Parker Company, the Carmody Foundry and the First Trust & Savings Bank, and also owns the property occupied by the store.

Mr. Denecke was married in 1883 to Miss Frances Granling, of Toledo, Ohio, and they have become parents of three daughters: Marie, now the wife of James L. Bever, Jr., of Cedar Rapids; and Gertrude and Louise, both at home.

The parents are communicants of the Catholic church. Mr. Denecke is identified with organizations having for their object the welfare and promotion of the city's interests, being connected with both the Commercial Club and the Merchants Association. He is also a member of the Country Club. He is interested in fishing and golf, to which he devotes his hours of leisure. His time, however, is largely taken up by business affairs of constantly growing magnitude and importance, the careful direction of which is manifest in the success which has attended him since he entered mercantile circles here. Such is his success that his methods are of interest to the commercial world and an analyzation of his life record shows that has always based his success upon the rules which govern strict and unswerving integrity and unflagging enterprise.

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#### GEORGE E. FINN

George E. Finn, who has been successfully engaged in farming and stock-raising in Buffalo township throughout his active business career, has lived in that township from his birth to the present time, his natal day being December 23, 1879. His parents, Mathew D. and Sarah (Patterson) Finn, were natives of New York and Virginia respectively. The father was a sailor boy on the Nebraska for three years and was likewise a volunteer of the Protective Fire Engine Company No. 2, of New York city. In the spring of 1856 he came to Iowa with his mother, locating in Buffalo township, Linn county. On the 3d of January, 1861, he wedded Miss Sarah Patterson, who had accompanied her parents on their removal to this county in 1850. Mathew D. Finn was identified with industrial interests as a carpenter and contractor for sixteen years and in 1872 turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits, taking up his abode on a farm of eighty acres which he had purchased in 1866. As his financial resources increased, owing to his well directed industry and capable management, he added to his holdings by additional purchase until at the time of his death he owned two hundred acres of rich and productive land. He passed away on the 12th of February,



1907, so that the period of his residence in this county covered more than a half century. He was honored by election to all of the township offices and served as justice of the peace for thirty-three years, his decisions being ever strictly fair and impartial. Fraternally he was identified with Anamosa Lodge, No. 46, A. F. & A. M., having joined the order on the 29th of December, 1865. His widow still survives him and now makes her home with her son George, the youngest of six children. The others were as follows: Martha E., who passed away in 1879; Augustus L., whose demise occurred in 1897; William H., who lives in Buffalo township; Sarah E., who died in infancy; and Mary A., who was called to her final rest in 1879.

Through the assistance which he rendered his father in the operation of the home farm, George E. Finn early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, and since his father's death he has continued to operate the old homestead place in Buffalo township. In addition to his interest in the home property he also owns another tract of twenty-six acres. For several years past he has handled stock in connection with his farming interests and both branches of his business return to him a gratifying annual income. He has likewise served as the president of the Buffalo Telephone Company for nine years and is widely recognized as one of the prominent and prosperous citizens of his native country.

On the 16th of March, 1904, Mr. Finn was united in marriage to Miss Ida B. Henderson, a daughter of John I. and Mary E. (Scott) Henderson, who were natives of New York and Iowa respectively. The father came to this state at an early day and following his marriage he operated a rented farm in Castle Grove township, Jones county, for several years. Subsequently he bought a quarter section of land and later added to his holdings by additional purchase from time to time until he owned four hundred and twenty-five acres. When his wife passed away in 1899 he leased the property and came to Prairieburg, Iowa, where he has since lived in honorable retirement. He has four children, as follows: Lillian J., the wife of Daniel Meredith, of Buffalo township; Jennie M., who is the widow of J. P. Burnside and resides in Boulder township; Mrs. Finn; and Henry J., who lives in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Finn have two children, namely: Gladys S., who was born January 21, 1907; and Everett H., whose birth occurred September 18, 1908.

Mr. Finn is a democrat in politics and has held the office of constable for two years, while for two terms he acted as assessor. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons, belonging to Lodge No. 46 at Anamosa. His religious faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church. A young man of unfailing courtesy and unfeigned cordiality, he has a host of warm friends in the community where his entire life has been spent.

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#### MALCOLM V. BOLTON

Varied are the agencies which contribute to the upbuilding of the city, and the greater its growth and progress the more complex are its commercial, manufacturing and professional interests. To meet the conditions which exist, to keep in touch with the trend of the times, and so manipulate business conditions that prosperity may be attained without the sacrifice of other interests, require men of keen judgment and ready resource, and such a one is found in Malcolm V. Bolton, conducting a real-estate business in Cedar Rapids.

Half the width of the continent separates him from his birthplace, for he is a native of Stockholm, St. Lawrence county, New York, where he was born on the 30th of June, 1869. His parents, Thomas Harrison and Rosina Caroline (Schel-





lenger) Bolton, were also natives of that county. His paternal grandfather, James Bolton, was of English birth and about 1835 arrived in the United States, at which time he took up his abode in St. Lawrence county, New York. He had been reared in a home of wealth without practical business training or experience and thus unqualified to meet the conditions of his new life lost his property. In St. Lawrence county he devoted his attention to farming and was thus engaged up to the time of his death. His family numbered six children, the fifth in order of birth being Thomas H. Bolton, who became a resident of Stockholm, New York, and for many years was there engaged in the insurance business. About half of the time, however, during the last two or three decades he made his headquarters at Springfield, Illinois. His death occurred in October, 1909. Of his four children two sons died in infancy, while those living are Malcolm V. and Thomas Harrison.

The schools of Stockholm afforded Malcolm V. Bolton his early education and in Lawrenceville Academy he mastered the more advanced studies. He became a resident of Cedar Rapids in 1888 and made his entrance into the business world in the service of McGee & Kaupke, the predecessors of the firm of Frick & Kaupke, wholesale dealers in coffees, teas and spices. For three years he remained with that house as bookkeeper and salesman, after which he became bookkeeper for the Order of Railway Conductors, which organization has its national headquarters in Cedar Rapids. Two years were thus spent and he then turned his attention to the real-estate business, and in 1893 opened up offices in the Oriel block. The year 1910 finds him, after having been obliged by the growth of his business to increase his office space five different times, in the magnificent ground floor offices of the Cedar Rapids Savings Bank building, which he now occupies. Mr. Bolton by the application of many progressive methods then new in Cedar Rapids, together with a willingness to work, with enthusiasm and with correct principles, has built his business up more rapidly than any real-estate business in Cedar Rapids and today the firm of Malcolm V. Bolton & Company is without doubt the biggest, strongest and best known real-estate firm in the city.

In addition to the time devoted to the many details in the upbuilding of his business, Mr. Bolton, being naturally a promoter, has been instrumental in financing, platting and acting as selling agent for many of the fine subdivisions of which Cedar Rapids is justly proud, chief among which is Ridgewood, comprising some hundred and thirty acres. Ridgewood, which was landscaped by Ossian C. Simonds & Company, the famous landscape gardeners of Chicago, has attracted wide attention on account of its many superb building sites, beautiful winding drives and walks, and is destined to gain a national reputation. It is without question one of the finest subdivisions west of the Mississippi river. In 1908 Mr. Bolton financed and built the Majestic Theater, one of the handsomest and most perfectly equipped vaudeville houses west of Chicago. This attractive playhouse has a seating capacity of one thousand four hundred and twenty-two and has received favorable comment from theatrical men and theater architects from all over the country.

Mr. Bolton was married in 1905 to Miss Louise Hamilton, a daughter of the late William Wallace Hamilton, of Hamilton Brothers, and the happiness of their home life has been greatly increased by the addition of a daughter, Jane. Mr. Bolton has little political preference. In fact he prefers to follow an independent course, supporting men and measures rather than party. He belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and is an exemplary representative of Mount Hermon Lodge, A. F. & A. M. He was formerly secretary of the Cedar Rapids Country Club, with which organization he has been closely identified since its inception. In conjunction with H. V. Ferguson and others he deserves great credit for the promotion of this club, which has one of the finest properties in the west, comprising one hundred and eighty acres of land, on which has been erected





a beautiful club house, with fine golf course and all necessary accessories. The club is rapidly growing and will be more and more appreciated each year in the social life of the city. He is also an active member of the Commercial Club, an organization composed of Cedar Rapids business men, and in these different associations measure up to a high standard of citizenship, of loyalty and of personal worth which they demand of their members.

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### THOMAS C. STONEKING

Thomas C. Stoneking, living in Bertram township, has won that prosperity which results from close application and intelligently directed effort. His possessions embrace eleven hundred and thirty-five acres of Linn county's most valuable land, most of which is improved. The long period of his residence in this county well entitles Mr. Stoneking to representation in this volume for he has made his home in Linn county for fifty-three years, arriving in the year 1857. Today a man of purpose whose life experiences have been varied and valuable, he was then a young lad of nine years, manifesting the interest of boyhood in all the scenes through which the family passed as they journeyed to the middle west. He was born in Greene county, Pennsylvania, March 8, 1848, a son of Jacob and Jane (Price) Stoneking, both of whom were also natives of the Keystone state, whence they came to Linn county, Iowa, in 1857 and located on a farm in Bertram township. The father first operated rented land but he was later enabled to purchase property, on which he and his wife made their home until their demise, the mother, who was born in 1817, passing away in 1891, while the father, who was born in 1807, survived for only a few years and was called to the home beyond in 1895.

Thomas C. Stoneking acquired his education in the common schools and remained under the parental roof until he had reached the age of twenty-five years. He is the youngest of four sons, his brothers being: William, a resident of Oklahoma; James and John, of Linn county. All were trained in the work of the farm, so that when they started out to make their own way in the world they were prepared to meet the responsibilities which came to them.

Thomas C. Stoneking assisted his father until the age of twenty-five years and at that period in his life he established a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Margaret Scott, who was born in Linn county in 1856, a daughter of James and Mahulda (Newton) Scott, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Virginia. They came to Linn county in 1838 and established their home upon a farm. In 1853 Mr. Scott erected on his place a brick house, which is still standing, one of the old landmarks of this section of the state. Their family numbered six children, of whom all are still living. The father died in 1894 and the mother departed this life in 1900, both having reached an advanced age.

Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Stoneking began their domestic life upon a farm, Mr. Stoneking renting a portion of the old homestead property. He worked diligently and persistently and this, combined with the able assistance of his estimable wife, has brought him his present success, for as the years have gone by he has purchased land from time to time until he is now the owner of eleven hundred and thirty-five acres, all located in Linn county. It is mostly improved land, while the home place in Bertram township is one of the model farms of this section of the state, being improved with modern buildings. He raises good crops and also feeds and fattens stock. He possesses keen foresight, which has enabled him to make judicious investments, so that today he stands among the wealthiest landowners of Linn county.



Unto Mr. and Mrs. Stoneking have been born seven children, six sons and one daughter, namely: Fred S., who is married and makes his home in Linn county; Frank J., who died in December, 1907; James H. and Elmer T., also of Linn county; Jennie H., the wife of Emmet Albaugh, of this county; and Harry O. and Roy, at home. They have also reared a granddaughter, Marie Stoneking, who is still a member of their household.

In politics Mr. Stoneking is a democrat. He has filled the office of township trustee for the past two years and has likewise served as school director. He is, however, not given to public life, as his private interests claim the major part of his attention. Fraternally he is connected with Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 551, I. O. O. F. He has aided materially in the development and progress of this section of the state, gives his support to every measure that he deems will benefit the county along material, intellectual, political and social lines, and at the same time has so capably managed his business affairs that he is now numbered among the men of Bertram township who are enjoying a very comfortable competence.

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### JOHN BISSELL TURNER

John Bissell Turner, of the undertaking firm of John B. Turner & Son of Cedar Rapids, was born in Crown Point, Indiana, September 19, 1845. He comes of a family that was founded in America by his grandfather, Samuel Turner, who emigrated to this country from Dublin, Ireland, and settled in Pennsylvania, where David Turner, the father of our subject, was born. On coming west the latter located in Laporte county, Indiana, and later removed to Crown Point, that state, where he continued to make his home throughout the remainder of his life, dying in that city in 1890, at the age of seventy-two years. He was a banker and was one of the most prominent men of the city. In early life he married Miss Caroline Bissell, who is still living at the advanced age of eighty-five years and now makes her home in Hammond, Indiana. To them were born the following children: Mrs. Sarah J. Montieth, now a resident of Port Huron, Michigan; Emma, the wife of I. C. Emery; Anna, the wife of Freeman Morgan, of Chicago; Mrs. Mary A. Holm, of Hammond, Indiana; Mrs. Austria C. Ross, of Kansas City, Missouri; Alexander M., of Hammond, Indiana; and John Bissell, of this review.

John B. Turner is indebted to the public-school system of Indiana for the early educational privileges which he received. At the age of twenty-one years he started in the hardware business on his own account at Crown Point. Two years later he sold out and removed to Fort Dodge, Iowa, where he opened a hardware store, which he conducted with good success until 1872, when he disposed of his stock. Removing to Cedar Rapids about that time, he was appointed to the railroad mail service, making the run between Clinton and Council Bluffs for seven years. When the Cedar Rapids division was established he was put upon that run and there remained for five years, making the trips between Cedar Rapids and Chicago. He was afterward appointed money order clerk at the Cedar Rapids postoffice, which position he continued to fill for three years, and in 1887 he resigned and entered into partnership with Herbert McDougall in the furniture and undertaking business. Two years later they dissolved their trade connections, Mr. Turner assuming the management of the undertaking department, while his partner remained proprietor of the furniture department. Mr. Turner has since continued in his line, covering a period of twenty-two years, and has one of the leading undertaking establishments of the city. He owns considerable real estate in Cedar Rapids,



including business property, from which he derives a substantial income. He has served as coroner of Linn county for eight years and for two years was a member of the city council. His activities in this direction have been beneficial, for as a member of the board of aldermen he exercised his official prerogatives in support of many progressive measures.

On the 30th of August, 1870, Mr. Turner was united in marriage to Miss Mary B. Boynton, a daughter of Benjamin Franklin Boynton, of Tipton, Iowa, and they have four children: Nettie C., who is now the wife of F. B. Neff, of Cedar Rapids, and has one son, Howard Edgar; Alice Ethel, who is the wife of John B. Brunot, of Greensburg, Pennsylvania, and has three children, John Burton, Mary Alice and William Turner Brunot; Laura, at home; and David, who is in business with his father. He was married June 27, 1907, to Miss Hildegard Eleanor Beurle, a daughter of Charles Beurle, of Cedar Rapids, and they have one son, John Beurle.

Mr. Turner has attained high rank in Masonry, having been a representative of the craft since 1875, during which period he has advanced through the various degrees of the York Rite to the Knight Templar degree. He also belongs to the Odd Fellows society, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Royal Arcanum and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He holds membership in the First Presbyterian church. His has been a well spent life, in which he has made good use of his opportunities. Early realizing that there is no excellence without labor and that the present and not the future holds one's chance for advancement, he has so directed his efforts day by day that he laid a solid foundation for a successful business career. His friends — and they are many — find him a genial, companionable gentleman and his good traits are acknowledged by all who know him.

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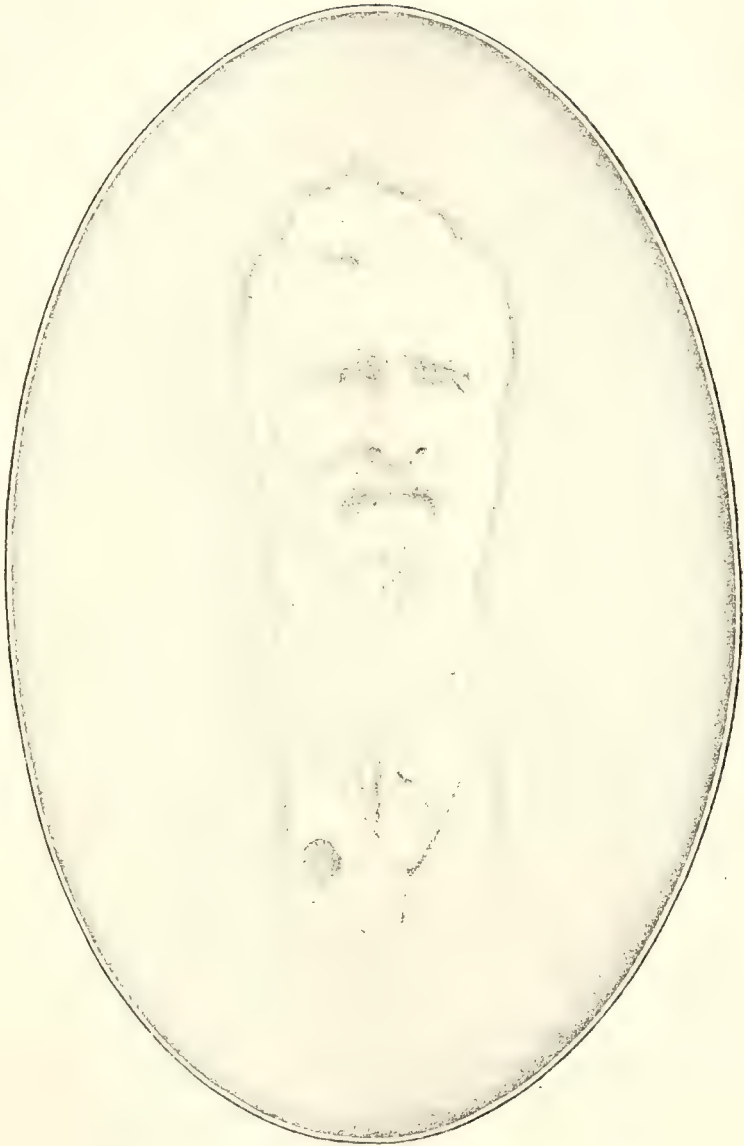
### WILLIAM WALKER

For over forty years William Walker was regarded as one of the leading business men of Cedar Rapids but is now practically living retired, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of former toil. His early home was in New York, for he was born in Greene, Chenango county, that state, on the 9th of January, 1827, his parents being Samuel and Clarissa (Evans) Walker.

His father, who died in June, 1839, was a man of unusual ability and although he could not read or write, he was able to transact a large amount of business as a contractor and builder, remembering all his accounts and even remembering the hours which each of the several men working for him had put in during the week. He kept no books and his memory of accounts was remarkable. He took a very active and prominent part in church work and at the age of twenty-five years he was made a deacon in the Baptist church with which he was connected. He could make a splendid prayer and was well posted on the Bible, which his children would read to him and after reading one chapter he would be able to repeat it word for word. He was only eighteen years of age when he was united in marriage to Miss Clarissa Evans, she being seventeen years old at that time. They became the parents of seventeen children, nine sons and eight daughters, of whom our subject is sixteenth in order of birth. In 1838 the father fitted out three of his children and sent them west, giving each sufficient funds to start in life on his own account. The following year three more were given the same advantages, but these were loath to leave on account of the father's ill health. He persisted in their going, however, and after seeing them on their way for a few miles, returned home where he had a stroke of apoplexy and died the following day at the age of fifty-five years, nine months and ten days. The death of his wife occurred in 1845, when







WILLIAM WALKER



she was sixty-five years of age. This worthy couple were highly respected and esteemed in the community where they made their home.

During his boyhood and youth William Walker attended the country schools near his home, as his father was then residing on a farm, and after laying aside his text-books at the age of sixteen years, began learning the harnessmaker's trade. Two years later he joined Henry F. Weeden in the harness business at Greene, New York, in which he met with success, but before the end of one year had turned his attention to the livery business and started a stage-coach line to Binghamton in opposition to the one there running. His partnership with Mr. Weeden existed about three years and at the end of that time he commenced running a canal boat between Greene and Troy, New York. Subsequently he conducted a hotel for six months but retired from that business on account of the death of his wife, which occurred in February, 1853. She bore the maiden name of Abigail Case and unto them was born one child who died at the age of twelve months.

Coming west in June, 1853, Mr. Walker first located in Elkhorn, Wisconsin, where he worked at his trade by the day for a few months and then embarked in the harness business on his own account. In November, 1854, he was again married, his second union being with Miss Mary Ann Davis, by whom he had a daughter, Lillia, who is now the wife of Henry Hanright, of Cedar Rapids. The following year he sold out his business and commenced working for his cousin in a hotel at thirty-four dollars per month, holding that position for two years. During this time he lived economically and made judicious investments of his capital, so that at the end of the period he was in possession of five thousand dollars in what was then known as "shin plaster" money. This he invested in the canning business in partnership with three others and had a fourth interest in the patent for which they sold state and county rights. But shortly after entering this venture he discovered that his partners had no money, so that the result was he lost everything except two hundred and sixty-five dollars. He then resumed the harnessmaking business but in 1861 sold out and went to Denver where he engaged in mining for a time, but soon became interested in buying cattle on the plains and driving them up to the mountains where they were sold. His reminiscences of the early days in the west are keenly interesting and his experiences while freighting in the mountains of Colorado are thrilling and delight his large circle of friends. He had left his wife and little daughter at Black Hawk Point and in January, 1862, while on one of these trips, his wife died. It was seven days before the sad news reached him and he then returned and after making a special coffin lined with zinc, he took the body in a wagon back to their old home in Elkhorn, Wisconsin, it being in March, 1863, when the body was interred. This trip occupied over thirty days, he and his little daughter sleeping in the wagon during that time. This was done in fulfillment of a promise which he had made his wife before they left Elkhorn, it being agreed that if either one died while away, the other should take the body back there for interment. Three years after interment Mr. Walker had the body removed to another cemetery and on opening the coffin found the body in a wonderful state of preservation, in fact just as if she had been recently buried. As this was previous to the discovery of embalming the fact was hard to believe and caused wide comment.

After the death of his wife he remained in Elkhorn for four years, his time and attention being again given to the harness business. While there he was married on the 20th of November, 1865, to his wife's sister, Miss Eliza Davis, by whom he had a son, Clarence A., who died at the age of a year. Immediately after the wedding they started for Cedar Rapids, where he embarked in the livery business, which he carried on for thirty-seven years, selling out finally to his son-in-law. During this time, however, he did not confine his attention exclusively to his livery but became extensively interested in the real-estate business and in many other different



enterprises, at one time having eight partners all engaged in separate lines of business. During his life time he has had about seventy-five partners and with the exception of four of these he was the only member of the firm that had any money when they embarked in business. They were all honest and never intentionally cheated him out of a cent, with the exception of one, and he today has the greatest faith in humanity.

In 1904 Mr. Walker went to California on account of his wife's health, but she died in that state on the 25th of November, 1905, and he brought her remains back to Cedar Rapids for interment. On the 10th of May, 1909, he again married, this union being with Mrs. A. S. Heefner. By his third wife he has three children living, namely: Nellie, now Mrs. Hill of Freeport, Illinois; Minnie, now Mrs. Ben Miller of Cedar Rapids; and Bertha, now Mrs. Alfred S. Durin.

Since 1854, Mr. Walker has been identified with the Masonic fraternity and has held all of the chairs except that of master in Cresecent Lodge, A. F. & A. M., Cedar Rapids. He was born and reared a democrat and was always affiliated with that party, and his religious faith is indicated by his attendance at the Baptist church. Although he still gives considerable attention to looking after his real-estate interests, Mr. Walker is now practically living retired. A man of good business and executive ability, he has prospered as the years have gone by and his success in life is due entirely to his own unaided efforts. He has always been found upright and honorable in all transactions and he justly deserves the confidence and high regard in which he is universally held. He is truly a self-made man and as such is deserving of prominent mention in the history of his adopted county.

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#### JOSHUA J. SNOUFFER

The history of Joshua J. Snouffer is in large measure the history of Cedar Rapids. He resided here for fifty-two years, was the joint author with Justice Childs of the city's charter and with its material development, its industrial interests, its public projects and its charitable activities he was closely associated. Well fitted for leadership because of his keen insight into questions, the breadth of his view and his spirit of loyalty and devotion to all that was right, to all that promised improvement and advancement, he left the impress of his individuality for good upon the annals of this city and his name is inseparably interwoven with its records while his memory is cherished and honored by all who knew him.

Captain Snouffer was born near Baltimore, Maryland, on the 24th of February, 1825. His father was of German birth and became a farmer in the vicinity of Baltimore, where the son received the rigorous early training that insures a man in future years against fear of hard work. He became familiar with all the labors of the farm, yet his duties were not so onerous as to prevent him from acquiring the substantial education which serves as the usual foundation for progress in later years. He completed his course of study at Notre Dame and was regarded as one of the best educated among the pioneers of Cedar Rapids, with thorough knowledge in books, and with practical understanding of business and the ways of the world. All through his life he remained an interested student of human nature and at the same time his reading was wide and varied so that he kept in touch with the onward march of progress and with advancing years grew in intellect and moral strength and in that keen discernment which enables the individual to arrive at correct conclusions concerning life and its opportunities. Completing his studies at Notre Dame at the age of nineteen years, he then learned the carpenter's trade, but





even previous to this time he had given evidence of the elemental strength of his character in business lines, for he was but fourteen years of age when he began buying cattle, hogs and sheep and bringing them over the famous old turnpike to the Baltimore market. For several years he was thus engaged, buying a drove of stock which he would take to market and then returning on foot, a distance of fifty miles, often making the trip on Saturday and arriving home early enough in the evening to participate in the social events of the community that night. After learning the carpenter's trade he began contracting for supplies used in railroad building across the mountains, and was meeting with substantial success in that undertaking when, on his twenty-first birthday he responded to his country's call for military aid and enlisted for volunteer service in the Mexican war, in which he served until almost the close of the struggle. On the 9th of November, 1847, he was wounded in the head by a Mexican bullet which he carried thereafter and which in his later years caused him much suffering. When able to leave the hospital he returned home, having won the post of first sergeant of his company of dragoons, commanded by Captain Merriek, for many years a noted criminal lawyer in Washington, D. C., who often intrusted to him the entire command of the organization. After somewhat recovering from his injuries he was honorably discharged.

Following his return home Captain Snouffer was married to Miss Anna White, a native of Maryland, and they became the parents of fifteen children, of whom four survive the father, namely: Mrs. A. D. Stevens, of Radford, Virginia; Mrs. Frances A. Benjamin; J. J. Snouffer, Jr.; and Mrs. Virginia Snouffer McClelland, of Cedar Rapids. For more than half a century Captain and Mrs. Snouffer traveled life's journey happily together and the wife was left to mourn the death of the husband when, on the 5th of May, 1904, he was called to his final rest.

It was in the year 1852 that Captain and Mrs. Snouffer, with their one child, left Maryland for Iowa. At length they reached Dubuque and it was their intention to go to Iowa City by team. But on reaching Cedar Rapids they met an old Virginia acquaintance who insisted upon their remaining here. Captain Snouffer believed that the little village, then containing only three hundred and fifty inhabitants, constituted the embryo of a growing and important city, and decided to remain. For more than half a century thereafter he continued to reside here and his efforts in behalf of the city never ceased from that day until his death. He had first turned his attention to carpentry and contracting in which he had previously had some experience, and thus literally he engaged in the upbuilding of the town. But not alone to this line did he confine his efforts. He was early identified with the milling industry and superintended the erection of the old brick mill in 1875, at which time he was a member of the firm of W. A. Watrous & Company. His business activities covered a wide field and he achieved marked success in everything that he undertook. He was an active participant in the building of the Iowa and Nebraska Railroad, now a part of the Northwestern system, in the extension of the line west of Cedar Rapids. He personally located the town of Blainstown, surveyed, platted and sold the lots in advance of the buildings on the road and was the special agent of the company at Belle Plaine and other places, having almost unlimited responsibilities thrust upon him. He was identified with the work long after the Northwestern came into possession of the road and was intimately acquainted with Marvin Hughitt, president of that now great system. It would be almost impossible to enumerate the enterprises with which Captain Snouffer has been identified in Cedar Rapids, but whatever it was that claimed his attention the public was ever a large direct or indirect beneficiary. For twenty-seven years he continued in active connection with milling interests here and his position among the representatives of that line of business is indicated by the fact that



he was honored with the presidency of the Iowa Millers Association for many years.

As time passed on and Captain Snouffer saw opportunity for judicious investment, he became the possessor of several farms, manifesting the same spirit of enterprise and progress in the management of his farming interests that he did in other relations of life, and for sixteen years was the vice president of the Iowa State Agricultural Society when the street fair was held in this city. No project instituted for the benefit of Cedar Rapids failed to elicit his interest and when his judgment convinced him that it was a wise one, he gave to it his hearty and unfaltering support. As stated, he was joint author with Justice Childs of the city's charter, was one of the originators and promoters of the water works and was one of those who gave the city its street railway. He served for many years as a member of the city council and was one of the best mayors Cedar Rapids has ever had, giving a public-spirited and beneficial administration, characterized by retrenchment in useless expenditure and by practical reform and improvement.

For many years toward the close of his life he served in the position of overseer of the poor and exhibited the same unswerving loyalty to duty which marked his entire career. He was just and generous to the needy poor and practically no worthy case ever escaped his notice, but by imposters and frauds he was never deceived and no weak sentiment permitted him to squander the tax-payers' money. He was sometimes criticized for the severity of his methods in handling this office, but he always explained his actions and justified his course to those who knew the facts in the case. His services in this respect were fully appreciated by those whose constant association with the poor enabled them to make a distinction between those who are poor from necessity and those poor from choice. He did not believe in the indiscriminate giving which fosters vagrancy and idleness and yet he was himself a man of most kindly spirit and frequently gave of his own means for the benefit of those in real need of assistance. He delighted to talk to his friends of the care which Linn county bestows on its real unfortunates and of the preparations made for their comfort. No man did more for those at the County Home than he. There was never any more intense loyalty or devotion to the public good displayed by any citizen of Cedar Rapids than by Captain Snouffer, who watched the city's growth from the time he arrived at the little struggling village on the banks of the Cedar river, with its three hundred and fifty inhabitants, until it became one of the metropolitan centers of Iowa, with its ramifying trade interests reaching out to all sections of the country. As he neared the end of life's journey it was his one desire that he might live to witness the semi-centennial anniversary of the granting of the city's charter, but this was not to be and a few days before that event he crossed the river and was ushered into life eternal. The funeral services were held at the former home at No. 108 South Fifth street which he had occupied for more than a half century, and the funeral cortege was one of the most impressive ever seen in Cedar Rapids, conveying the remains to their last resting place in Oak Hill cemetery.

The Saturday Record said of him at his death: "Few men were more influential in shaping the destiny of Cedar Rapids than Mr. Snouffer, and he is almost the last of the old band of pioneers conspicuous for their attainments. He held many offices and places of trust and fulfilled all obligations with a singleness of purpose that won the confidence and praise of his fellowmen. . . . It is like tearing down a well known landmark or the felling of an ancient elm to think of this old pioneer as no more. He lived a decade beyond the time allotted to man and perhaps he was ready to go, but such men and such friends are never easily spared and his death has caused universal sorrow and regret." One of the other city papers said: "Another of the real pioneers





is gone. In the same home in which he ate his first meal in Cedar Rapids the last sad rites will be said. But in the memory of the people, in the history of the city his name will live. Out of the wilderness he helped to carve and shape one of the most beautiful spots in the world. Out of pioneer poverty he helped to make many fortunes, reserving a fair share for himself. Of his greatest work for humanity no one will ever know it all — how many stormy nights he faced the elements in his efforts to relieve suffering; how many thousands of dollars he gave out of his private purse to the unfortunate; how many people have been encouraged to face again the battle of life with the assurance of at least one good friend behind them."

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### MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

The Merchants National Bank was organized February 28, 1881, in room No. 4 of the old Postoffice building, on which occasion the question of its establishment was discussed by R. D. Stephens, P. C. Frick, J. C. Broeksmit, James R. Morin, A. B. George, W. W. Higley, C. J. Ives, J. C. Haman, J. W. Henderson, George Douglas, I. H. Sheever, Peter Hollenbeck, J. S. Cook, T. M. Sinclair, Charles O'Hara, C. H. Clark, James Morton and H. O. Bradley. Its proposition was first that the capital stock be fixed at one hundred thousand dollars, with the privilege of increasing to two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The following gentlemen were elected directors: R. D. Stephens, J. W. Henderson, J. C. Broeksmit, S. L. Dows, W. W. Higley, P. C. Frick and A. B. George. Of these, P. C. Frick still continues as director and vice president. The officers elected were: R. D. Stephens, president; J. W. Henderson, vice president; and Captain C. E. Putnam, cashier. On the 5th of June, 1899, Mr. Stephens resigned as director and John T. Hamilton was elected in his place, while on the 1st of July of the same year he was chosen to the presidency. This bank has had a remarkable growth during the past ten years and has become one of the strongest financial institutions of the state, founded upon a safe, conservative policy, which combined with its progressive spirit in management, insures its continued growth.

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### J. T. AND A. H. PAUL

The brothers whose names introduce this sketch are enterprising, progressive and energetic farmers, owning the old homestead property, comprising five hundred acres, in Bertram and Marion townships. They are sons of Jonathan and Dorcas (Wilson) Paul, who were natives of Greene county, Pennsylvania, and came to the middle west in April, 1843, at which time they located in Linn county. Here the father entered land, on which he made his home during the two succeeding years. He then removed to Dubuque county, this state, where he purchased land and made his home for eight years. On the expiration of that period he once more returned to Linn county, the year of his second arrival being 1855. At that time he located on the farm which is now owned by the sons, and both he and his wife spent their remaining days on this place, the father passing away on the 12th of January, 1901, when he had reached the age of eighty-four years, while the mother, surviving until October 16, 1906, died at the extreme old age of eighty-nine years. To them were born seven children, as follows: Margaret, the wife of L. B. Kramer, of Bertram township; William S., who makes his home in Calhoun county, Iowa; George, a resident of Linn





county; Wilson, also living here; Rachel D., the wife of P. S. Dean, of Marion township; and A. H. and J. T., whose names introduce this review.

A. H. Paul was born in Dubuque county, June 11, 1853. Both he and his brother J. T. acquired their education in the common schools and the period of their early boyhood was spent in much the usual manner of farm lads, as they assisted in the work of the fields from the time of early spring planting until crops were gathered in the late autumn. They are now the owners of the old home property of five hundred acres, located in Bertram and Marion townships, and are most progressive in carrying on their work. They devote a portion of the land to raising various grains, and in their pastures are found high grades of stock, which is a principal feature of their business interests. Their early training in the habits of industry, economy and integrity has been a factor in their later success, and today they stand among the substantial residents of their section of Linn county.

A. H. Paul has never married but J. T. Paul was united in marriage on the 10th of December, 1879, to Miss Susan Daniels, a sister of J. K. Daniels, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. The brothers are democrats in their political belief but have never aspired to public office. Having spent almost their entire lives in Linn county, they are deeply interested in the progress that has already been made and is being continued along various lines, particularly those of agriculture. Their success is well merited for they have ever followed the most honorable methods in conducting their business affairs.

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#### W. J. BRADLEY, M. D.

Dr. W. J. Bradley, whose professional training was received under some of the most eminent educators of America and of Europe, has been engaged in practice in Cedar Rapids since the 1st of April, 1902, giving his attention specially to surgery. He was born in Berrien county, Michigan, April 4, 1866. His father, Henry Bradley, was a native of England and in his childhood days became a resident of Canada, where he was reared to manhood. He removed thence to Ohio and subsequently to Michigan, where he has given his attention to farming for many years but is now living retired, making his home in Buchanan, Michigan.

Dr. Bradley obtained his preliminary education in the country schools of Berrien county and afterward attended the Buchanan high school. Determining upon the practice of medicine as a life work, he began reading and later entered Rush Medical College of Chicago, from which he was graduated with the class of 1890. Returning to Buchanan, he opened an office but after a short time removed to Grundy county, Illinois, practicing at Braceville and at Coal City until the 1st of April, 1902, when, seeking a broader field of labor, he came to Cedar Rapids. A year was devoted to study along surgical lines in Berlin and, though he continues in general practice, he yet makes a specialty of surgery and is eminently qualified for success in this department of professional work. He is very careful in the diagnosis of a case, is particularly skilled in the use of surgical instruments and has performed some of the most difficult and delicate operations, winning him the admiration and respect of the profession as well as the community at large.

In 1892 Dr. Bradley was married to Miss Rachel Cumming, a native of Illinois, and they have one son, Paul Bernard. Dr. Bradley belongs to the Masonic fraternity, in which he has attained high rank, becoming a member of the Mystic Shrine. He also holds membership with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Pythias, the Country Club and the Methodist church —



associations that indicate much of the nature of his interests and the principles that govern his life. In strictly professional lines he is connected with the Linn County Medical Society, the Iowa State Medical Society and the American Medical Association and has come to be recognized in Cedar Rapids as a medical and surgical practitioner of ability, who at all times conforms to a high standard of professional ethics.

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### AQUILLAR MILLER

Among the honored early residents of Linn county is numbered Aquillar Miller, who throughout the greater part of his life has made his home on section 12, Fairfax township, where he located in 1863. It was in 1851 that he came to this county and he has since been prominently identified with its upbuilding and development.

He was born in York county, Pennsylvania, on the 22d of January, 1827, and on the paternal side is of German extraction, although his father, Samuel Miller, was also a native of York county, Pennsylvania. In that county the latter married Miss Elizabeth Winter, who was also born and reared there and, like her husband, was of German ancestry. In their family were seven children, five sons and two daughters, of whom our subject is the eldest. He was but fourteen years of age when the parents left their native state and removed to Ohio, locating in Morrow county when that region was a comparatively undeveloped wilderness. To the improvement and cultivation of his land the father devoted his time and energies and as time passed prospered in his undertakings, becoming the owner of a well improved farm. He died on the 12th of January, 1872, at the age of seventy-one years, and his wife, who afterward made her home with her daughter Mrs. Sarah Fish, of Morrow county, passed away in 1892. In early life both took an active part in church work as members of the United Brethren denomination, and the father held a number of offices in the same. Our subject's maternal grandfather was a soldier of the war of 1812 and was a resident of York county, Pennsylvania, where he conducted what was then known as a public house, which became well and popularly known throughout the Keystone state on account of the superior apple brandy which it furnished to its guests. In that county Mr. Miller died.

Aquillar Miller was reared and educated in his native county and remained under the parental roof until his marriage, which was celebrated in Richland county, Ohio, September 6, 1849, his wife being Miss Temperance Phillips, whose birth occurred in that county on the 29th of November, 1825. She was a daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Hedrick) Phillips, who were farming people and early settlers of the Buckeye state, where members of the family became prominent in public affairs, Isaac Hedrick having represented his county and district in the state legislature. The mother of Mrs. Miller died in Richland county, June 19, 1851, at the age of forty-two years, and on the 26th of February, 1852, the father married Jacintha Cook. His death occurred on the old Phillips homestead, August 16, 1886, when he had reached the age of eighty-six years. He accumulated a large property and was a stockholder in three banks in Richland county. The Phillips family was of German, English and Welsh extraction and most of its representatives devoted their attention to agricultural pursuits and became quite well to do.

During her girlhood Mrs. Miller received excellent training under the guidance of a good mother and she remained at home until her marriage. She passed away on the 15th of March, 1892. Of the ten children born to her and her husband only five reached years of maturity, namely: Sarah E., the wife



of Henry Stephenson, a farmer of Audubon county, Iowa; Mary, the wife of Thomas Stephenson, also a resident of that county; William E. and Avery E., both farmers of Linn county; and Carrie, the wife of Theophilus Thomas, of Fairfax.

It was in the spring of 1851 that Mr. Miller accompanied by his wife and one child arrived in Linn county, Iowa. They had made the trip with teams and covered wagons, bringing with them their household effects and provisions. They were ferried across the Mississippi and on reaching this county settled in Monroe township, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved land. As time passed he placed his property under cultivation, but eventually sold that farm and in 1863 removed to section 12, Fairfax township, where he became the owner of two hundred acres of rich and valuable land. Upon this place he erected good and substantial buildings, including a nice residence. In his farming operations he met with excellent success and so conducted his affairs as to win the confidence and high regard of those with whom he was brought in contact.

Mr. Miller and his family are active members of the Christian church, in which he has filled the office of deacon, and as a public-spirited and progressive citizen he was called upon to fill a number of official positions of honor and trust, serving as township clerk and assessor for some time. He comes of an old and honored family and has always upheld the interests of the country, having one brother, John Miller, who was a soldier of the Civil war and was fatally wounded at Champion's Hill, Mississippi. He was a member of Company G, Twenty-fourth Iowa Volunteer Infantry under the command of Captain Smith, of Cedar Rapids, and the shot which caused his death came from the rifle of a sharpshooter who was concealed in the branches of a tree, the bullet passing through his heart. Mrs. Miller also had a brother who was in the Union army and was killed at Murfreesboro by a gunshot through the head. He had enlisted as a private in Richland county, Ohio. With the development and upbuilding of Linn county the Miller family has been closely identified for over a half a century and its members have won the regard of all who know them.

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### WILLIAM MYERS

More than six decades have passed since William Myers came to Linn county, so that he well deserves to be classed with its representative and honored pioneer citizens. He was born in Richland county, Ohio, March 21, 1841, and is the only living member in a family of five children born to Jacob and Sarah (Higens) Myers, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of England. During their married life they resided in the Buckeye state and there both departed this life, the father passing away in November, 1845.

William Myers spent the first six years of his life in the state of his nativity and then, in 1847, followed his grandparents to Johnson county, remaining with them until he was eighteen years old. In the meantime he acquired his education in the common schools and at that time started out to make his own way in the world by working as a farm hand. When the Civil war was in progress Mr. Myers offered his services to the government, becoming a member of the Twentieth Iowa Infantry. During his service of three years he took part in many hard fought battles, particularly those in and around Vicksburg, but he escaped without injury. He was mustered out at Mobile, Alabama, July 8, 1865.

When his services were no longer needed at the front Mr. Myers returned to his home in Linn county, where he engaged in farming, and at the end of ten





years purchased a portion of his present farm but he has since added to his acreage and now has two hundred and fifty acres in Bertram township. He has made all of the improvements on the place, including a fine country residence, substantial barns and outbuildings, and all are supplied with modern conveniences and accessories, so that his farm is considered one of the valuable properties of his section of the county. He makes a specialty of raising stock but also devotes a portion of his time and attention to general farming, his labors having brought him gratifying success.

In 1869 occurred the marriage of Mr. Myers and Miss Catharine Parks, who was born in Brooklyn, New York. Their union has been blessed with two daughters: Lura, who is still with her parents; and Elva E., who is the wife of F. B. Anderson, of Bertram township.

Mr. Myers supports the principles of the republican party and at present is serving as township trustee, while for the past six years he has filled the office of township treasurer in a most capable manner. He is likewise a member of the school board. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which Mr. Myers is serving as a trustee. There is particular satisfaction in reverting to the life history of this honored gentleman, since his mind bears the impress of the historical annals of the state of Iowa from early pioneer days and from the fact that he has been a loyal son of the republic. From the age of six years he has resided in Iowa and now when almost seventy he is numbered among the honored and revered citizens of the community.

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#### WENCIL ZALESKY

Wencil Zalesky, agent for the Anheuser Busch Brewing Company for the Cedar Rapids district of Iowa, was born in the village of Sucha in the district of Chrudim, Bohemia, on the 28th of March, 1856. He is a son of Frank and Anna (Stajr) Zalesky, who came to the United States in 1867 and made their way direct to Cedar Rapids, where they established their home. A year later they removed to Belle Plaine, Iowa, where the father resided until his death, which occurred in 1893, when he was sixty-four years of age. His wife died in 1891 at the age of sixty-one years. The family crossed the Atlantic on a sailing vessel. They embarked at Bremen and landed at Quebec, Ontario, after a voyage of sixty-three days. Two sons of the family, Frank E. and Joseph, had previously come to the United States, arriving at Cedar Rapids two years before. Frank, who was a butcher by trade, entered the employ of Calder's meat market and Joseph found employment as a clerk in the hardware store of R. G. Rock on the location now occupied by Larimer's hardware store. The brothers were later associated in the butchering business at Belle Plaine, Iowa, for some years, but Joseph afterward returned to Cedar Rapids, where he died in 1883. Frank conducted a successful business as proprietor of a meat market for a number of years but is now practically living retired in Belle Plaine. He is, however, the vice president of the First National Bank of that place. A daughter of the family, Anna Zalesky, contracted a fever on the voyage to the new world and died and was buried at the mouth of the St. Lawrence river among the Thousand Islands.

Wencil Zalesky was a youth of eleven years when he came with his parents to the new world and in the public schools of his native country and the public schools of Belle Plaine he acquired his education. At an early age he entered upon an apprenticeship to the butcher's trade under his brother Frank, who was living in Belle Plaine. After completing his apprenticeship, Wencil Zalesky continued with his brother in business in Belle Plaine until 1880 and the follow-



ing year came to Cedar Rapids. Three years later he returned to Belle Plaine, where he was engaged in the butchering business until 1889, when he again came to this city and entered the employ of George Williams, who was then conducting a brewery in Cedar Rapids. In 1894 Mr. Zalesky was made local agent for the Anheuser Busch Brewing Association, in which capacity he has since served. He is loyal to the interests of the corporation which he represents and has built up a good business at this point for the house.

In 1878 Mr. Zalesky was united in marriage to Miss Mary Novotny, a daughter of John and Katie (Michalek) Novotny, of Poweshiek county, Iowa, and to them were born two children, of whom one died in infancy. The other child, William J., acquired his early education in the Cedar Rapids public schools and in 1899 entered the University of Michigan, where he pursued a medical course and was graduated in 1903. Later he took a post-graduate course at Bellevue Hospital, New York city, and in 1904 was appointed navy surgeon, now serving on the cruiser Salem. Mr. Zalesky lost his first wife in 1883 and in 1887 he married Miss Rose Kubela, a daughter of Frank and Anna (Pokorry) Kubela, of Belle Plaine, Iowa. Two children have been born of the second union: Otto, who died at the age of eighteen years; and Albert C., who is attending the Cedar Rapids high school. The family residence is at No. 408 Eighth avenue.

Mr. Zalesky, aside from his connection with the St. Louis corporation which he represents, is well known in banking circles. He was one of the founders of the Iowa State Savings Bank and has been a member of its board of directors since its organization. He is recognized as a man of sound business judgment and of enterprising spirit and he cooperates in organized movements for the benefit of the city through his membership in the Cedar Rapids Commercial Club. He also belongs to John Hus Lodge, No. 51, I. O. O. F., and to Belle Plaine Lodge of the Knights of Pythias. He has won many friends not only among the people of his own nationality, but also among those with whom business and fraternal relations have brought him in contact.

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### NELSON H. STOOKEY

The agricultural interests of Linn county are well represented by Nelson H. Stookey, who now owns and operates a fine farm in Fayette township. He is a native of Indiana, born in Kosciusko county, June 7, 1853, and is a son of Abraham and Sarah B. (Lightfoot) Stookey, both natives of Ohio. As children they removed with their respective parents to the Hoosier state when that country was a frontier settlement and there they grew to years of maturity and were married. The year 1857 witnessed their arrival in Iowa and they located in Marion township, Linn county, where the father had first engaged in farming on rented land. He made his first purchase of property in 1863, consisting of a tract of one hundred and eighty acres adjoining the present farm of our subject. He continued to engage in agricultural pursuits until the spring of 1884, when he removed to Shellsburg and died in that place about four months later. He was an ardent republican in politics and exerted a wide felt influence in public affairs, being called upon to fill various offices of honor and trust, including those of township trustee and assessor. His wife long survived him and passed away in 1903, when in her ninety-first year.

Like most farm boys, Nelson H. Stookey acquired his early education in the district schools near his home and the knowledge there acquired was supplemented by a course of study at Western College. Through the assistance he rendered his father in the cultivation of the home farm he gained an excellent



knowledge of every department of farm work and on starting out in life for himself chose the occupation to which he had been reared. For two years after his marriage he operated rented land and then purchased eighty acres of his present farm, to which he subsequently added a tract of one hundred and twenty-two acres and still later another tract of one hundred and forty acres. He now owns three hundred and thirty-two acres, having sold a small piece of his property. He is thorough and systematic in his methods of carrying on his work and is regarded as one of the best farmers of his community.

On the 1st of January, 1874, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Stookey and Miss Eliza Rife, of Canton township, Benton county, and seven children have been born to them, five of whom are still living, namely: Samuel S., at home with his parents; John J., now in California; Nellie M., who is successfully engaged in teaching and resides at home; Thomas W., a butcher of Clay county, Iowa; and Flora A., at home.

Mr. Stookey gives his political allegiance to the men and measures of the republican party and his fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, have called upon him to serve as township trustee for several years. He has also served on the school board for the greater part of the time during the past thirty years and has done much to advance the cause of education in his locality. His wife is a member of the Presbyterian church and both are held in the highest esteem by all who know them.

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#### JOSEPH KOZLOVSKY

Joseph Kozlovsky is now living retired in Cedar Rapids, although for many years he figured prominently in public office and in mercantile and real-estate operations achieving success that enabled him at length to put aside the active cares of business and enjoy the comforts of life because of the fruits of his former toil. As the name indicates he comes of Bohemian ancestors, but his birth occurred on a farm near Kellnersville in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, on the 14th of October, 1859.

His parents, W. J. and Mary (Cenefelo) Kozlovsky were both natives of Bohemia and came to this country with their parents, the former when five or six years of age and the latter when about seventeen years of age. The two families settled on farms in Wisconsin and there the father and mother of our subject were afterward married. In 1863 W. J. Kozlovsky came to Cedar Rapids, but the family remained in Wisconsin until two years later, when the mother and five children also arrived in this city. The father was identified with the butchering business here for a number of years, successfully conducting a meat market in Cedar Rapids and later removing to Marion. He afterward returned to the former city and engaged in the hotel business, being proprietor of the Cedar Rapids Hotel for a quarter of a century and thus becoming favorably known to the traveling public as well as to the residents of this city. He died in 1894 and his wife died four years later.

Joseph Kozlovsky was reared at home and acquired his education in the public schools, passing through consecutive grades until he became a high school student. In his early manhood he assisted his father in the hotel business and later engaged in the restaurant business, with which he was identified for four or five years. He afterward conducted a confectionary and cigar store for six years and in these various undertakings met with good success, for he carefully managed his business interests, gave to the public satisfactory service and was honorable in all his dealings.





In 1893 Mr. Kozlovsky was elected a member of the city council and served for a term of two years. In 1898 he was elected chief of police of Cedar Rapids and served in that capacity for eight years, retiring from the police department in 1906, after which he was engaged in the real-estate business for two years, negotiating many important property transfers. At the end of that time ill health caused his retirement from active business life. He was formerly one of the organizers of the Iowa State Savings Bank and has since been one of its directors, owning considerable stock in the institution.

In 1888 Mr. Kozlovsky was united in marriage to Miss Mary Benesh, of St. Paul, Minnesota, and a native of Bohemia. He belongs to the John Hus Lodge, No. 51, I. O. O. F.; Cedar Rapids Lodge, No. 251, B. P. O. E.; and since 1882 has been a member of the Prokop Velky Lodge, No. 46, C. S. P. S.; and to Cedar Rapids Sokol Society. He gives his political allegiance to the democracy and is well informed not only upon political questions, but upon the various interests which claim his attention. He is recognized as a man of strong mind, of clear judgment and of keen discrimination, and there are few men of wider intellectual development than Joseph Kozlovsky. He has visited almost all foreign countries and therefore has a wide knowledge of those who people the different sections of Europe. He is a man of versatile popularity and a true citizen.

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### SAMUEL MOHLER

That Linn county offers excellent opportunities to the agriculturist is indicated in the fact that Samuel Mohler has acquired a vast amount of land, being now the owner of five hundred and fifty-five acres in Linn county, which is devoted to general farming. He also owns a farm of six hundred and forty acres in Alberta, Canada.

Mr. Mohler is a native of Bertram township, born on a farm in 1856, a son of George M. and Elizabeth (Allen) Mohler, whose family numbered eleven children. The father was born in Pennsylvania, while the mother claimed Ohio as the state of her nativity. They sought a home in the middle west in October, 1855, at which time they purchased eighty acres of land in Linn county, on which they established their home and reared their family. This tract constitutes a portion of the land now owned by the subject of this review. The father took up the work of developing and improving his land and made his home thereon until his death, which occurred December 6, 1884. The mother survived for about five years and departed this life in June, 1889. Both died in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which they were devoted members. Of their eleven children the five living members are: Charles C., a resident of Bertram township; J. W., who makes his home in Canada; Samuel, of this review; Mary E., the wife of G. E. Heath, of Woodbury county, Iowa; and J. A., who is single and makes his home in Montana. The deceased members are George H., Margaret, Francis M., Jennie, Ardean and Edward.

Samuel Mohler was reared on the home farm, early being trained in the work of cultivating the soil and harvesting the crops. He remained on the home farm until he attained his majority and then made a trip to the west, remaining three years. At the end of that time he returned to Linn county and rented the old homestead farm, which he operated for three years. He then rented another tract of land near Fairfax, which he cultivated for five years. In the meantime he had been successful in his work and thus accumulated the money that enabled him to become the owner of the homestead farm, to which he has added from time to time until he now has five hundred and fifty-five acres, in Bertram, Franklin and Marion townships. On the farm stands a fine country residence, which is



supplied with all modern improvements and accessories, while the barns and outbuildings are all arranged with a view to convenience. He employs the most modern methods in carrying on his work and in addition to general farming he raises stock on quite an extensive scale and this has brought him a gratifying income.

On the 20th of May, 1886, Mr. Mohler was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Marshall, who is a daughter of Joseph and Jane (Coburn) Marshall, the former a native of England and the latter of Illinois. Mrs. Mohler is the second in order of birth in a family of ten children, of whom the three youngest, Henry, John and Frank, are deceased. Those living are James, William, Milo, Edward, Joseph and Margaret. A daughter and son have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Mohler. Jennie E., who is now at home, has received liberal educational advantages, having spent three years at Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa. She is also a talented musician and was graduated from Mount Vernon Conservatory, while she also spent two years in Brazelton's Conservatory of Music, at Cedar Rapids. She has engaged in teaching school for the past four years. William S. is married and follows farming in Linn county, having recently purchased a tract of two hundred and seventy acres.

The parents are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically a democrat, Mr. Mohler is, however, quite liberal in his views. He has held nearly all the township offices, the duties of which he has always discharged with strict fidelity. The ideals of men like this, their personality, the history of their lives and their profound sense of integrity could be made the text of a lesson from which the young men of today could study success. He is looked upon as an exemplary man and the people of Linn county are proud to call him their own.

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#### ANTON MATYK

Anton Matyk, a prominent representative of retail business interests in Cedar Rapids, manifests in his commercial career a spirit of marked enterprise and determination. The straightforward and honorable business policy that he has ever followed and the progressive methods he pursues constitute the basis of his prosperity and have won for him the high regard of business associates and contemporaries.

Mr. Matyk was born in Bohemia, September 5, 1857, and is a son of Peter P. and Mary (Vecere) Matyk, who were also natives of the same country, where they were reared and married. In early manhood the father learned the trade of a hosiery maker and in 1866 emigrated to the United States with his family, consisting of himself, wife and four children—Anna, Mary, Anton and Frank. The family home was established in Belle Plaine, Iowa, where the father purchased a knitting machine and engaged in the manufacture of hosiery and mittens. Six years later, in 1872, he came to Cedar Rapids where he continued in the same line of business conducting a knitting industry here for some years. In 1880 he turned his attention to merchandising and was proprietor of a store until 1895 when he retired from active business life. He spent his remaining days in the enjoyment of a well earned rest and passed away February 2, 1904, in his seventy-eighth year. He had for six years survived his wife, who died in 1898 at the age of sixty-nine years.

Anton Matyk spent his youthful days in his parents' home and was a lad of nine years when they crossed the Atlantic to the new world. He continued his education in the public schools of Iowa, and when about sixteen years of age became an apprentice to the cooper's trade at which he worked for seven years. After his father established a store Anton Matyk became associated with him in



the business, entering into partnership in 1880 under the firm name of Peter Matyk & Son. Since that time the house has been an important factor in the retail business circles of Cedar Rapids. Upon the father's retirement in 1895 Anton Matyk became sole proprietor of the business which he still conducts, enjoying a large and growing trade. He is diligent, enterprising and progressive and meets the wants of his customers with a large and well selected stock. He is thoroughly reliable in all his business dealings and his success is therefore justly merited.

In 1895 Mr. Matyk was united in marriage to Miss Mary Skvor, a native of Bohemia, who came to Cedar Rapids with her parents, John and Katheryn (Jansa) Skvor, from her native country about 1868. Mr. and Mrs. Matyk have two children, Lucille and William. Mrs. Matyk is very prominent in Bohemian lodge and society interests. She is the president of the Matice Skolska, a society for the education of the children in the Bohemian language. She is also a member of the Bohemian Ladies Pomenka Vlasti J. C. D., and is identified with the Daughters of Rebekah. Mr. Matyk belongs to John Hus Lodge, 51, I. O. O. F.; Odvalia Camp, 6849, M. W. A.; Kareliv, 77, C. S. P. S. His political allegiance is given to the democratic party and in 1887 he was elected for a two years' term to the city council from the third ward. He is widely known in Cedar Rapids where he has made his home since his boyhood days and his many substantial qualities have gained him high and lasting regard in society circles, as well as in business life. He is a man of great energy and carries forward to completion whatever he undertakes.

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### JOHN STODOLA

Wide-awake and enterprising, quick to recognize business opportunities and to improve them, John Stodola is now numbered among the leading farmers and representative citizen of Fayette township. He was born in Bohemia, on the 13th of March, 1868, his parents being John and Veronica Stodola. He was only twelve years of age when his father died and his mother subsequently joined him in this country. In the land of his birth Mr. Stodola made his home up to his fourteenth year, when he decided to try his fortune in the new world and accordingly crossed the Atlantic, coming at once to Iowa. His aunt, Mrs. John Melsho, and his brother, Joseph Stodola, were living in Tama county, where he joined them on his arrival in this state. There he worked on a farm for two years and afterward devoted five years to railroad work, four years on construction and one year in the roundhouse in Cedar Rapids. On attaining his majority, however, he purchased eighty-seven and a half acres of land in Tama county and turned his attention to farming. In connection with the operation of his own land he also cultivated a rented tract and subsequently was able to purchase fifty-five acres more. This property he continued to cultivate and improve until 1903, when he sold the place and after looking over Tama county and Missouri he came to Linn county, where he decided to locate. He then purchased three hundred and twenty-nine acres of land in Fayette township and has since engaged in its cultivation with marked success. He is a very progressive farmer and the prosperity that has come to him is certainly well merited, for on starting out in life for himself he was without capital and all that he has has been earned through his own industry.

On the 18th of October, 1891, Mr. Stodola was united in marriage to Miss Agnes Womaeka, of Cedar Rapids, who is also a native of Bohemia, and they have become the parents of seven children, six of whom are still living, Anna, Frank, John, Charles, Emil and William, all at home.





Mr. Stodola is independent in politics, voting for the men whom he believes best qualified for office regardless of party lines. He is now serving his second term as a member of the school board and takes a commendable interest in public affairs. He is now a stockholder in the Palo Savings Bank and is one of the most progressive and up-to-date farmers of his community.

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### MAJOR ELZA C. JOHNSON

Major Elza C. Johnson, whose title indicates his connection with the Iowa National Guard, is well known in Cedar Rapids as a representative of the legal profession. He is one of the younger members of the bar but already has made substantial progress, winning a place among those who have been in practice for a much longer period.

He was born in Jones county, Iowa, April 14, 1873, and is a son of George and Lydia Johnson. His father was born in the northern part of Ohio on the 15th of May, 1843, and was a little lad of five summers when in 1848 he was brought to Iowa by his parents, who located in Jones county. There he was educated and later engaged in teaching in the district schools. Subsequently he was made superintendent of the district schools of Jones county but regarded this merely as an initial step to further professional labor, for after teaching for a time he turned his attention to the study of medicine, which he practiced at Wyoming, Iowa. In 1874 he removed to Clinton, Connecticut, where he engaged in practice until 1879. In that year he established his home and opened an office in Maquoketa, Iowa, where he practiced until 1904, when he went to Oklahoma, where he engaged in practice and succeeded in building up a good business. He figured prominently in political circles and in 1906 was elected a senator in the first state legislature of Oklahoma. That his course received the endorsement of the majority of the citizens in his district was indicated by the fact that he was reelected in 1908 but did not live to finish his second term, being killed on the 10th of February, 1909.

Major Johnson attended the public schools of Maquoketa, passing through consecutive grades to his graduation from the high school in 1889. He then became a student in the State University of Iowa and was graduated in 1893 with the Bachelor of Philosophy degree. He afterward engaged in teaching school in Maquoketa until 1896 and proved a capable educator, imparting clearly and readily to others the knowledge that he had acquired. It was his desire, however, to become a member of the bar and with this end in view he became a student in the law office and under the direction of D. A. Wynkoop, who directed his reading until 1898. In 1893 he was elected captain of Company M, First Regiment of the Iowa National Guard, with which regiment, then known as the Forty-ninth Iowa Volunteers, he served as captain of Company M, during the Spanish-American war and until the 13th of May, 1899, on which day he received an honorable discharge. He afterward reorganized the company and was again elected its captain, with which rank he served until June 5, 1905.

Major Johnson took the bar examination before the supreme court at Des Moines, Iowa, in October, 1899, and at once entered upon the active practice of law at Maquoketa, where he maintained his office until May, 1907, when he came to Cedar Rapids, where he has been practicing continuously since. A goodly clientele has been accorded him, connecting him with considerable litigation held in the courts, and he has proven his ability in various departments of the law. While living in Maquoketa he served one term on the city council, having been elected by a good majority in a ward politically strong against him. He is a member of the Linn County Bar Association and was formerly secretary



of the Jackson County Bar Association from 1905 until 1906. He has been admitted to practice in the United States courts and his clientage has constantly grown in volume and importance. He now continues in active connection with the military interests of the state and was elected June 5, 1905, major of the Fifty-third Regiment of the Iowa National Guard, being reelected for an eight year term June 4, 1910.

On the 21st of March, 1899, Major Johnson was married in Marshall county, Iowa, to Miss Ada Mershon, and unto them have been born three children: Luta, who is attending the public schools; Vera; and Rita. In his fraternal relations Mr. Johnson is a Knight of Pythias, belonging to Cedar Rapids Lodge, No. 98, of which he has been chancellor commander. He also served for two terms as commander of S. L. Dows Camp, No. 4, United Spanish War Veterans, and on June 9, 1910, was elected commander of the department of Iowa and is also aid on the staff of the national commander-in-chief. He belongs to the Commercial Club and takes an active interest in promoting all that pertains to the welfare, progress and upbuilding of Cedar Rapids. His political views accord with the principles of the republican party, while his religious faith is manifest in his membership in the Congregational church. He has the qualities that make for leadership and since attaining his majority has steadily progressed in professional, fraternal and military circles.

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#### JOHN KELLY

An excellent farm of two hundred acres located in Fairfax township pays tribute to the efforts of John Kelly, a substantial and progressive farmer whose success indicates clearly the able and wise management which he has displayed in the conduct of his business affairs. A native of Ohio, he was born in Cincinnati, in October, 1854, and was a son of John and Anna Kelly. The father, whose birth occurred in Ireland, came to America in the early '40s and here engaged as a deck hand on boats operating on the Mississippi river. He followed river pursuits throughout the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1854. His widow later removed to La Salle county, Illinois, and in 1869 came to Fairfax, where she again married and later died.

Owing to the early death of his father, John Kelly was reared under the direction of his mother, with whom he removed to La Salle county, Illinois, early in life, and in the public schools of Peru, that county, acquired a good education. He remained a pupil therein until fifteen years of age, when he accompanied his mother to Linn county, Iowa, where he remained for only a few weeks, however. Going to Chicago, Illinois, he was employed as a deck hand on a tug boat, remaining in that city for six years, during which time, by diligent and persistent effort, he worked his way up to the position of captain. At the expiration of that period he returned to Linn county, locating in Fairfax township, where he became identified with agricultural interests. To eighty acres which he already owned he added another tract of eighty acres, and in 1891 sold the farm of one hundred and sixty acres, purchasing the fine place upon which he now resides. This property, consisting of two hundred acres, has, under his careful direction, been brought to a high state of cultivation. He not only carries on general farming along progressive lines but engages to some extent in raising stock, being the owner at the present time of sixteen head of cattle, ten head of horses and forty hogs.

On the 22d of April, 1879, in Fairfax, occurred the marriage of Mr. Kelly and Miss Ellen Shean, and unto this union have been born six children, as follows: John M., twenty-six years of age, who graduated from the Fairfax high



school and is at home, assisting in the work of the farm; Edward, aged twenty-four years, who also graduated from the Fairfax high-school and resides on the home farm; Anna, an employe in the dry-goods store of John H. Taft at Cedar Rapids; Mary, the wife of Vincent Lucas, of Ontario, California; Gertrude, who at the age of twelve years attends the district school; and Norbert, a lad of ten years, also a student in the district schools.

The family attend the Catholic church, of which the parents are members, while in his political belief Mr. Kelly is a staunch democrat. He has never found time to figure in politics, however, beyond casting his vote in support of that party at the polls, as he prefers to devote his entire attention to the conduct of his personal affairs. He is seeking his success along the lines of industry, energy and perseverance, and he has met with gratifying prosperity as a result of well directed labors.

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### WACLAV FRANCIS SEVERA

While business plays a most important part in the life of a great majority of men, the broad minded man is he who recognizes not only the obligation that devolves upon him to provide for his own support and those dependent upon him but also permits his labors to reach out into the wider field wherein he recognizes his obligations to all mankind and strives to discharge every duty and meet every responsibility. While one of the most successful business men of Cedar Rapids, where as a manufacturing pharmacist he is conducting an extensive enterprise, Mr. Severa is also concerned in movements that have for their object the welfare and upbuilding of the entire community and especially the development of the intellectual forces. His wide acquaintance renders his history one of particular interest to a large majority of his fellow townsmen and others in this part of the state.

He was born at Doubravice, near Chrudim, Bohemia, September 3, 1853. He acquired a common-school education in his native village and in 1868, when a youth of fifteen years, came to the United States, making his way to Racine, Wisconsin. He was influenced in his choice of a location by the fact that he had relatives living in that city. During the winter months he attended the public schools, while in the summer season he worked that he might meet his expenses throughout the remainder of the year. In his early youth he yearned to see foreign countries and eagerly grasped the opportunity when his older sister, then living near Racine, invited him to come to America — the land of many advantages. After remaining for some time in Wisconsin he journeyed westward as far as Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and in January, 1877, accepted a position in a drug store at Belle Plaine, Iowa, where he prepared himself practically for the pharmaceutical profession. In 1880 he came to Cedar Rapids as a registered pharmacist and opened a drug store.

The business was a success from the start and in connection with the sale of drugs and druggists' sundries Mr. Severa engaged in the preparation of certain proprietary remedies based on time tested medical prescriptions and these remedies, being aimed against the more common ills, found a ready market. Owing to the merits of the goods and judicious advertising the business increased from year to year until, in 1901, the retail drug business was sold out and the W. F. Severa Company was organized. The new firm, of which W. F. Severa is president and treasurer, is engaged in the manufacture of proprietary medicines, which are widely known as Severa's family remedies. The enterprise has grown to large proportions and is now one of the leading productive industries of the city.





Into other fields Mr. Severa has also extended his efforts, for he is a man of resourceful business ability, who recognizes and utilizes the opportunities that are presented. He is the founder of the Bohemia American Savings Bank, which upon consolidation became the American Trust & Savings Bank. For six years he served as president of the latter institution, being the first to occupy the position, and is now its vice president. He also holds an interest in the Security Savings Bank and was the first director thereof. He is interested in the Merchants National Bank of Cedar Rapids; is financially interested in the Cedar Rapids Light & Power Company and the Cedar Rapids & Iowa City Interurban Railway and of the latter is a director. He is likewise connected with the Cedar Rapids Life Insurance Company as a stockholder and director. His cooperation in different connections is eagerly sought, for his judgment is recognized as sound and his sagacity keen.

Considering what Mr. Severa has achieved in the business world one might easily imagine that his entire time and attention were given to commercial and manufacturing interests, yet he finds opportunity to aid in the work of public progress and to advocate and support many measures for the general good. He has been a member of the Cedar Rapids Civic Improvement League since its organization and is an ardent advocate of the movement for beautifying the city. The public service of great importance in which he has been deeply interested is that which is operated under the name of Council of Higher Education. Of this Mr. Severa was the founder and has been the chief donor to the work. The object is to encourage the Bohemian youth to acquire a higher education in American colleges and universities and to aid promising students who lack the material means necessary to procure it. This association has a wide field of usefulness all over the United States. Mr. Severa is a strong believer in a thorough education and largely through his efforts a building, known as Matice Skolska, devoted to educational purposes, has been erected in Cedar Rapids. In this building there are class rooms, an auditorium and a library with over twenty-five hundred volumes, and a children's library with about four hundred volumes.

In 1881 Mr. Severa was united in marriage to Miss Josephine Dusil, then a teacher in the public schools of Cedar Rapids. They have two children: Lumir Severa, now vice president and superintendent of the laboratory of the W. F. Severa Company; and Zulina, now attending Smith College, at Northampton, Massachusetts. The son obtained his early education in the schools of this city and following his graduation from the high school pursued an academic course in the State University of Iowa, while subsequently he entered the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where he completed a classical course and won the Bachelor of Arts degree. Following his graduation he traveled abroad for a time and upon his return from Europe pursued a course in the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, from which institution he was graduated with the degree of P. C. In addition to his excellent scientific preparation in the field of chemistry and pharmacy Lumir Severa was actively engaged in the laboratory work during his vacation intervals, thus making himself thoroughly acquainted with all details of the manufacturing processes. He assumed his position as head of the manufacturing department eminently qualified and thoroughly prepared, possessing both theoretical and practical knowledge of the work, and has since been called to the position of second executive officer, being now vice president of the company.

W. F. Severa is well known in fraternal circles, being a charter member of Lodge Jan Hus, No. 51, I. O. O. F., of Cedar Rapids, which was organized in March, 1885; Lodge Prokop Velky, C. S. P. S.; and Lodge Prokop Velky, Z. C. B. J. He is also a member of a reading and literary society and is interested in all that tends to promote intellectual progress, whereby man is trained not only to utilize his own powers to better advantage but to come into appreciative con-



tact with the master minds of all ages and thus broaden the world of thought in which each individual dwells no matter how narrow or contracted the sphere. Mr. Severa is himself a broad-minded and highly cultured man, of wide interests, activities and aspirations, and the record of his successful and active life is one of the most creditable to be found on the pages of this volume.

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### SAMUEL MILLER

Samuel Miller is classed among the oldest residents of Linn county, where he has spent the greater portion of his life, and he is therefore well known in this section of the state. He makes his home on a farm of one hundred acres, located on section 4, Cedar township, and he likewise owns other valuable farming property in Marion township. Mr. Miller was born in Marion county, Indiana, May 22, 1828, a son of James B. and Barbara (Foster) Miller. The mother died in Indiana in 1828, and in 1846 the father came with his family to Linn county. Here he entered three hundred and twenty acres of land and cast in his lot with the pioneer settlers. He later purchased a tract of one hundred and twenty acres and followed farming throughout his remaining days. He only lived about eight years after taking up his abode in Linn county, for his death here occurred in 1854. His family numbered eight children but the subject of this review, who is the youngest, is the only surviving member. The others were: Richard S.; Vincent; John F.; James; Mary A., who became the wife of Jacob Pew; Franklin, who was born in 1824 and died in 1860; and William, who died in infancy.

Samuel Miller remained under the parental roof until he had reached the age of nineteen years, during which time he acquired a limited education in the district schools, and also assisted his father in the development and improvement of the home farm. Upon leaving home he found employment with his brother-in-law, Jacob Pew, at farm labor, and was thus engaged for three years, receiving as his compensation one hundred dollars per year. He eventually began farming on his own account by purchasing two hundred and forty acres of land, which he owned four years, and then disposed of his property and in 1855 embarked in the grocery business in Marion. After a year and a half he sold his stock of groceries and engaged in the butcher business, also buying and selling stock. On the expiration of two years he sold his interests and invested his money in two hundred acres of land in Marion county, Iowa, this property remaining in his possession for fifteen years. In the meantime he purchased two more farms, his possessions aggregating four hundred and twenty acres. He disposed of the entire acreage in 1880 and purchased one hundred and sixty-nine acres in Marion township, Linn county, which tract he still owns. Three years later, in 1883, he purchased one hundred acres in Cedar township, on section 4, and on the latter tract he has since made his home. He has made many improvements on the place and owing to his earnest efforts in former years he has made it a valuable property. For many years he was actively identified with agricultural interests but owing to his advanced age he is now leaving much of the farm work to others, although he is still managing his business affairs.

Mr. Miller has been twice married. His first union was with Miss Hannah L. Howe, who was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, their marriage being celebrated on the 20th of December, 1849. This union was blessed with seven children, namely: John Pugh, born in 1850, is married and now resides in Woods county, Oklahoma; Mary E., who was born in 1852 and died in 1855; Samuel, born in 1855, resides in Marion township, Linn county; William Vincent, born in 1857, is married and resides in Stillwater, Oklahoma; George Washington, born in 1859, is married and makes his home in Monroe township, Linn county; Joseph





C., born in 1868, is at home; and Charles, who is married and lives in Marion, Iowa. The wife and mother departed this life in 1876, and on the 19th of September, 1877, Mr. Miller wedded Jane Hunter, a native of Linn county and a daughter of William and Mary Jane Hunter. The father, who was born in Ireland, September 12, 1817, was but six weeks old when brought to America by his parents. The mother was born in Virginia, the date of her birth being February 11, 1819. By the second marriage of Mr. Miller there have been born three sons but the youngest, Freddie R., is deceased. The others are: William Earl, born October 22, 1879, is married and lives in Linn county; and James B., born January 27, 1882, is married and makes his home in Cedar Rapids. On the 28th of June, 1909, Mr. and Mrs. Miller adopted a daughter, Geraldine, whose birth occurred September 20, 1901.

Mr. Miller gives his political support to the republican party and has been called to fill a number of township offices. He is a Master Mason, belonging to lodge No. 6, at Marion. Mrs. Miller affiliates with the Methodist Episcopal church. Not only has Mr. Miller seen Linn county grow from a wild country with only a few white inhabitants to a rich agricultural district, containing thousands of good homes and many growing towns inhabited by an industrious, prosperous, enlightened and progressive people, but he has participated in the work of development which was necessary to produce a change that has placed this part of the country on a par with the older east.

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#### LESLIE B. YOUNG, D. D. S.

Dr. Leslie B. Young, who is now successfully engaged in farming in Fayette township, has spent his entire life in this section of the state and is a worthy representative of a prominent and influential family. He was born in Benton county on the 9th of November, 1878, and is a son of Thomas Young, whose birth occurred in Montgomery county, New York, September 30, 1822. On leaving his native state the father removed to Indiana where he spent fourteen years, but in 1854 came to Iowa and took up his abode in Benton county. As the years passed he became one of the most extensive stock dealers in this section of the state and was one of the wealthiest men of Benton county. Two years after his arrival there he purchased his first farm and added to his property from time to time until at his death he was the owner of about three thousand acres in Benton and Linn counties. He was a man of excellent business ability and sound judgment, was industrious and progressive, and to these characteristics may be attributed his success, for on coming to this state he was in limited circumstances. In 1857 he married Miss Charlotte Hutchins, who was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, and they became the parents of nine children, namely: John; Elmer; Charlie; Frank; Edward; Orvil; Katie; Thomas; and Leslie. The father passed away in 1890 at the age of sixty-seven years, and the mother died on the 2d of January, 1904, at the age of sixty-three years.

Dr. Young passed his boyhood and youth in much the usual manner of farm boys, pursuing his studies in the local schools and later in the graded schools of Cedar Rapids. He subsequently took up the study of dentistry and was graduated from the Chicago College of Dental Surgery in the class of 1901. He then opened an office at Houston, Texas, where he remained, however, but six months and then returned to Cedar Rapids, being engaged in practice there for over two years. In June, 1904, he decided to retire from his profession and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits with which he had become thoroughly familiar during his early life upon the home farm. For five years he owned and operated a farm in Benton county, but in the spring of 1910 he sold that place and pur-





chased his present farm of one hundred and seventy-three acres on section 19, Fayette township, Linn county, where he now makes his home, his time being wholly occupied with the cultivation and improvement of this place. Besides his property here he also owns a tract of four hundred acres of land in Cass county, Minnesota. Dr. Young is also a member of the firm of McClintock & Young, engaged in business at Palo as dealers in grain and hogs.

In January, 1905, Dr. Young was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Caffery, of Cedar Rapids, and unto them have been born three children, Estelle Frances, Bradley De Witt, and an infant son. The Doctor is a member of Benton City Lodge, No. 81, A. F. & A. M., of Shellsburg, and also of Cedar Rapids Lodge, No. 251, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He is one of the substantial farmers and leading citizens of his community and is a man who is held in high regard by all who know him.

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### MORIES KERNS

That Mories Kerns possesses many of the traits of his Irish ancestry, chief among which are energy and perseverance, is indicated in the success which he has attained, for with his sister he now owns two hundred and sixteen acres of valuable land in Bertram township. He is a native of that township, born in 1872, and is one of a family of six children, of whom five are now living, born of the marriage of John and Barbara Kerns, who were natives of Ireland. At an early day they emigrated to America and spent their remaining years in Linn county, both being now deceased.

Mories Kerns spent his boyhood and youth in much the usual manner of farm lads and gave his father the benefit of his services until he had reached man's estate. He and his sister Katie then purchased the old homestead farm, their possessions embracing two hundred and sixteen acres in Bertram township. This is a well improved property and the fields annually return bounteous harvests in return for the care and labor he bestows upon them, while in the pastures are found high grades of stock, for Mr. Kerns gives much of his time to the stock-raising industry. On the place stands a good country home and splendid farm buildings for the shelter of grain and stock, and the farm in all of its equipments and accessories presents a neat and attractive appearance. Mr. Kerns' sister Katie acts as his housekeeper.

Mr. Kerns is a republican in his political views and affiliations but has never been active as an office seeker, preferring to devote his time to his private business affairs. He is a communicant of the Catholic church. He belongs to that class of representative men who rapidly discern opportunities of improvement and who are rapidly forging to the front.

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### JOSEPH J. HAJEK

Joseph J. Hajek, a prominent citizen of Cedar Rapids, especially among the people of his nationality, was born in Hrin, County Tabor, Bohemia, on the 23d of February, 1866, and is a son of Jake and Francis Hajek who were farming people. Reared and educated in his native land, he passed through eight Latin schools and was graduated with distinction in 1885, after which he took up the study of law in the University of Prague. At the instigation of his brother, who is now a designer in New York, but at that time lived in Chicago, he left the old country with the intention of continuing the study of law, but after locating here



he became interested in journalistic work as a member of the editorial staff of the "Chicagske Listy" and took such delight in the occupation that he decided to devote his life to it. The financial crisis of 1903, shortly after he was married, was a hard trial for the paper which went to ruin, but finally a position was offered him on the oldest Bohemian daily in the United States, the "Svornost," with which paper he remained for nine years as local editor. At the same time he translated Coin's Financial School and wrote two volumes of "Ready Made Speeches" for all occasions, which books are now largely sold. Later he was correspondent for a Bohemian concern in Cedar Rapids, but at the end of three years he became so dissatisfied that he returned to newspaper work, becoming general manager of the "Vestník Iowský," a branch of his old paper which under his control has grown in favor and circulation until it is now an important factor in the life of the Bohemian-Americans of Cedar Rapids. The tendency of this paper is independent in politics, while in religious matters it advocates free thought. Mr. Hajek has been selected speaker of the Congregation with right to solemnize marriages, conduct funeral services, perform the naming of children, etc. He belongs to the Sokols of which he was secretary for two terms and is now secretary of the Middle Circuit, which is the central body of twenty-four societies; belongs to "Zizkuv Dub" Western Fraternal Association, "Camp Odvaha," M. W. A., Reading Society, Karel Havlicek, C. S. B. P. J.; Royal Arcanum; Singing Society "Illahol" and other organizations. He has taken a very active part in public affairs and was, with others, instrumental in bringing about Bohemian Day at the Golden Jubilee of Cedar Rapids and the organization of the Bohemian National Guard, which now works for the Bohemian Home for the Aged. In short he takes an active interest in everything for the benefit of his countrymen and for the progress of the whole community.

In 1893 Mr. Hajek married Miss Louise Eisler, of Minneapolis, and four children have been born to them: Irma, who is now a stenographer in the employ of Williams & Hunting; Robert; Elsie; and Sylvia. They live a happy home life at their new and attractive residence, No. 511 Seventh avenue West, and are well liked by all who know them. Mr. Hajek has written a number of very good poems, is a speaker of renown and is a tireless worker in everything he undertakes. His office is at No. 125 Third avenue, Cedar Rapids.

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#### WILLIAM C. WILSON

William C. Wilson, who has been successfully engaged in business as a merchant of Toddville since 1903, was born in Otter Creek township, Linn county, Iowa, on the 20th day of April, 1878, his parents being William and Rebecca J. (Thompson) Wilson. The father was a native of Ohio, while the mother's birth occurred near Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. They took up their abode among the early settlers of this state and here William Wilson spent the remainder of his life, passing away in 1898. His widow still makes her home in Linn county, where she is well known and highly esteemed.

William C. Wilson of this review attended the common schools in the acquirement of an education and remained at home until he had attained his majority. He then worked at common labor for five years and subsequently embarked in business on his own account as a merchant, having for the past seven years conducted a successful and growing mercantile enterprise at Toddville. He gives careful attention to the wants of his patrons, and his reasonable prices, fair dealing and enterprising methods have won him a liberal trade.

On the 30th of September, 1903, Mr. Wilson was united in marriage to Miss Ethel Lanning, a native of Linn county and a daughter of John K. and Angelina





(Hogeland) Lanning. Her father's birth occurred in Ohio, while her mother was born in this county and is still living here. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have one son, Meryl Grant, whose natal day was February 5, 1907.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Wilson has supported the temperance or prohibition party and in 1904 was appointed to the position of postmaster but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. Both he and his wife belong to the Church of Christ and do all in their power to promote its growth and extend its influence. Mr. Wilson is a minister of the denomination, having been ordained on the 6th of February, 1909. He and his wife are widely and favorably known in the county where they have always resided, the circle of their friends being almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintances.

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### BENJAMIN H. WITWER

Benjamin H. Witwer has written his name large in the commercial history of Cedar Rapids, yet his activities have been by no means confined to business lines; on the contrary he has done effective, far-reaching and beneficial work for the moral and civic interests of the community, and is interested in all things that are factors of municipal advancement and betterment. In his business relations he is perhaps best known as the president of the Witwer Brothers Company, wholesale grocers, although he has other connections, being widely known in banking and real-estate circles and in other fields of business activity and enterprise. A native of New York, he was born in Erie county, June 25, 1842, and is a son of John and Maria (Weaver) Witwer, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, where they were reared and married. The father learned the miller's trade when a young man and to that business devoted his attention until 1858 when he removed from the Empire state to Rockford, Illinois, where he purchased a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits. In 1866 he disposed of his land and removed to Rockford, where he lived retired until his death. His life was a well spent and useful one and his success came as a reward of his earnest and diligent efforts. He lost his wife in 1872 and after her demise he went to live with his son Benjamin with whom he remained until called to his final rest in March, 1881. Both he and his wife were devout members of the Christian church and their many sterling qualities of heart and mind endeared them to all who knew them.

Benjamin H. Witwer was reared in his native state to his sixteenth year when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Illinois. After attending the public schools he continued his education in an academy at Williamsville, New York, and following his removal to Illinois he spent one term as a pupil in the Rockford high school. He afterwards went to Marion, Indiana, and was for one year a pupil in the Marion Academy, but at the outbreak of the Civil war the school was discontinued and he returned home. Subsequently he went to Buffalo, New York, and was graduated from the Bryant and Stratton Business College in the class of 1863. Following his graduation he was employed in a grain elevator in Buffalo for one year, after which he returned to Rockford, Illinois, and engaged in the wholesale and retail grocery business with which he was prominently identified until 1881.

That year witnessed the arrival of Mr. Witwer in Cedar Rapids and here he became associated in business with his brother, H. E. Witwer, who had come to this city fourteen years before, arriving in 1867. Here they established a wholesale and retail business under the firm name of Witwer Brothers. Discontinuing the retail department they centered their energies upon the upbuilding of the





wholesale trade and how well they have succeeded is told by the present magnitude of their enterprise. They have one of the most extensive mercantile interests of Cedar Rapids, their trade relations covering a wide territory while the house sustains an unassailable reputation for the integrity of its business methods which conform to the high standard of commercial ethics. In 1904 the firm was reorganized and the business incorporated under the style of The Witwer Brothers Company. On the organization of the Security Savings Bank, Benjamin H. Witwer became one of its stockholders and sometime later was chosen a member of its board of directors. He is also a member of the real-estate firm operating under the name of The B. H. & H. E. Witwer Company, of which Benjamin H. Witwer is the secretary and treasurer. This company was incorporated in January, 1908, and is building up an extensive business, handling much important real estate and negotiating many property transfers. The brothers have also been identified with several manufacturing and business enterprises and are classed with the most prominent representative business men of the city. Never content to sit idly by and watch others promote the growth of the city they have taken an active part in advancing its interests in the fields of business and have cooperated in many movements which are matters of civic virtue and civic pride.

On the 25th of September, 1866, Mr. Witwer was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Hurd, of Rockford, Illinois, and they have become the parents of two daughters; Mary W., the wife of Rev. DeWitt L. Pelton, an Episcopal minister of New York city; and Jessie J., the wife of James J. Adams, a prominent lawyer of Omaha, Nebraska. Mr. and Mrs. Witwer are members of the Christian church in which Mr. Witwer is an elder and both take an active and helpful part in the church work, doing all in their power to promote its growth and extend its influence. Mr. Witwer is also a member of the Cedar Rapids Country Club and since the building of the Old Ladies Home in Cedar Rapids, has been a member of its board of trustees. No good work done in the name of charity or religion seeks his aid in vain and he stands as an example of high and honorable manhood, of progressive citizenship, of true humanitarianism and of modern commercialism that has as its root integrity and unabating enterprise.

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#### FRANK M. BARTA

In 1893 Frank M. Barta was appointed sewer inspector of the city of Cedar Rapids, a token of his thorough knowledge of the system, which qualified him in every regard for the position, and, moreover, because of his unfaltering loyalty he has been reappointed through successive administrations, continuing in the office for seventeen years. Like a large number of the citizens of Cedar Rapids, he had his birth in Bohemia, at the village of Javornice, near Rychnow, November 2, 1863. He is one of a family of eleven sons and daughters, all living, healthy and strong. His father, Joseph Barta, owned and for many years conducted a blacksmith shop in Javornice, and Frank M. Barta there acquired a good common-school education such as was obtainable at his time. He was graduated from the public school of his native village in 1877 and his parents, desiring him to learn a trade, it was decided that he was to become a miller. According to the requirements of his native country, he served an apprenticeship of fully four years. It has been and still is a custom in Europe that a young man, after learning his trade, is expected to travel and work in different places to promote his efficiency by broad experience. Accordingly Frank M. Barta left home in 1881 and traveled on foot across Moravia, Upper Hungary and then south until he reached Budapest, the Hungarian capital. There he remained for some time, when he decided



to try other cities of Hungary. Accordingly he walked from Budapest to Pressburg, and thence to Zidlochovice, Moravia, where he remained for a year and a half. He was afterward at Cicice, Bohemia, where he remained until his departure for America.

In 1883 Mr. Barta landed at New York and remained in that city for a year, employed at different occupations. In 1884 he came west as far as Cedar Rapids but did not remain long. He accepted a position on the railroad and after a year, in 1885, decided to try life on a farm, accepting a position as a farm hand in Iowa. When another year had passed he went to Omaha, Nebraska, but spent only one summer season there. Returning to Cedar Rapids he made permanent location here and entered the large packing house of T. M. Sinclair & Company, Ltd., there remaining until 1893. In that year when the city of Cedar Rapids installed the sewer system he was offered employment and when it was seen that he possessed a thorough knowledge of the construction of sewers he was appointed city sewer inspector, which position he has now held for seventeen years, each new city administration appointing him without opposition. He is regarded as thoroughly competent and the efficient manner in which he has discharged his duties has won for him high encomiums from all concerned.

On the 4th of October, 1890, Mr. Barta was married to Miss Elizabeth Nezerka, who was born at Piskora, Lhota, near Podebrady, Bohemia. She came to Cedar Rapids from the old country in 1885 with her father. Three children have been born of this marriage: Laura Elizabeth, who was born in 1891 and is now stenographer and secretary to H. Cushman, of the Kreider-Cushman Shoe Company; Charles, who was born in 1892 and is now a machinist in the employ of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Company; and Adolph, who was born in 1894 and is now a student of the Cedar Rapids high school.

In 1890 Mr. Barta joined the Bohemian Slavic Benevolent Association (Lodge Karel, IV No. 77, C. S. P. S.) In the same year he joined the Reading Society, the oldest Bohemian society west of Chicago, organized for literary and educational purposes. In 1895 he became a member of the Woodmen of the World, joining Lodge Sumavan, No. 34. In 1897 he joined the Western Bohemian Fraternal Association, Kaid IV, No. 13, Z. C. B. J., which in that year was organized in Cedar Rapids, and of this organization Mr. Barta has been the national president since 1906. In 1899 he was initiated into Lodge Maine, No. 643, I. O. O. F., and in 1900 became a member of the Bohemian Gymnastic Association (Turners) known as Tel Jednota Sokol Tyrs. In 1907 he joined the Independent Order of Foresters of America and has been prominent in several of these organizations. In 1907 when the large and now growing Western Bohemian Fraternal Association, which since its organization in 1897 has had its head office in Cedar Rapids, met in convention in Milwaukee Mr. Barta was unanimously elected for president of that progressive association, which has now over two hundred and fifteen lodges scattered all over the western half of the United States. Well qualified for this position, Mr. Barta devotes all of his spare time and many of his evenings to the management of the affairs of this association, known among the Bohemian people as Zapadni Cesko-Bratska Jednota (Z. C. B. J.) Under the able guidance and management of Mr. Barta this organization has greatly increased its membership and its finances have been placed on a sound and secure basis so that it has a large reserve fund. In 1910 when the Central School Association of Cedar Rapids was organized Mr. Barta was elected as the first president of that body known as U. Matice Skolska, which looks after the education and uplifting of American youth of Bohemian descent. The cooperation and support of Mr. Barta in these various organizations is regarded as a most valuable asset. He is a man of strong character, always honest and honorable, is a keen observer and a ready and fluent talker. He possesses good judgment and is an able leader in society work. His genial disposition and kindly temperament make him popular





in social gatherings and while he readily forms his opinions and maintains them stoutly, he is yet accommodating and obliging and gives others the same rights which he retains for himself. Every movement which speaks for progress finds a staunch supporter in him.

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### HEINRICH M. KELSEY

Heinrich M. Kelsey, who carries on general farming, and stock-raising, conducts a small dairy and also raises fruit in Clinton township, has a property that is growing in value and to which he is gradually adding modern conveniences. He was born in the house where he still resides on the 12th of January, 1856, his parents being James C. and Harriet Jane Kelsey, who were natives of Niagara county, New York. James C. Kelsey was born on the 13th of July, 1821, and when a young man of about twenty-nine made his way westward, arriving in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, (where his older brother, John H. Kelsey, had already located) on the 25th of May, 1850. He was accompanied by his parents and two sisters. His mother died in 1853 and his father returned to New York. Mr. Kelsey first settled in Cedar Rapids but later took up his abode on a farm four miles northwest of the village, upon which he continued to reside until his death, which occurred on the 7th of February, 1903. He had for more than half a century been a resident of this county, so that he had witnessed almost its entire growth and development and in the work of progress and improvement he had borne his share. In the late '50s, when the stage coach passed his home on the way to Cedar Falls from Cedar Rapids, there was a postoffice established in his house called *Mon Dieu*, of which he was the postmaster. He also served as assessor. Harriet Jane Kelsey was born near Pekin, Niagara county, New York, on August 7, 1823, and was married to James C. Kelsey on the 16th of November, 1853. She was a staunch Methodist and always ready to work for the upbuilding of Christ's kingdom on earth. She died in the old home on February 14, 1900.

Heinrich M. Kelsey, who was reared on the old homestead, attended the district schools until the age of sixteen years. In the meantime the vacation periods had been devoted to such work upon the farm as he could accomplish, and as his age and strength increased he more and more assumed the responsibility of carrying on the home place. He continued upon his father's farm until 1895, when he removed to Covington, Iowa, where he engaged in general merchandising for two years. At that time he held the offices of postmaster of Covington and clerk of Clinton township. At the expiration of that period he removed to Alburnett, where he continued in the same line of business for another two years. At the end of that time he sold out and returned to the old home farm, which he had purchased from his father. The farm now consists of one hundred and forty-one acres lying in section 14, range 8, which, although rough near the river, is well adapted to the line of farming and fruit raising that Mr. Kelsey is pursuing. "Kelsey's Bend" is located on this farm.

Mr. Kelsey was married on the 31st of March, 1880, to Miss Lida J. Shields, a daughter of George and Susan (Lutz) Shields. She lived but one year after their marriage, dying on the 5th of April, 1881, of Werlhoff's disease. On December 27, 1883, Mr. Kelsey was again married, his second union being with Miss Minerva Sackett Stevenson, a daughter of Thomas and Mary Ann Stevenson. Mrs. Kelsey was born near Rochester, New York, and came to Iowa with her parents in May, 1868. Her parents were natives of County Antrim, Ireland, and were married there in 1856, coming to America the following spring. They lived in New York city for a short time, later near Rochester, New York, and then came to Linn county, Iowa. Mrs. Stevenson died on the 24th of May, 1906, since





which time Mr. Stevenson has made his home with his daughter. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Kelsey have been born four children. Lida Margaret, whose birth occurred on the 26th of March, 1885, was married to James Smyth, of Ely, on the 19th of December, 1906, and is the mother of two sons, namely: Harvey J., born October 28, 1907; and Delbert Leigh, born May 15, 1909. Orendo Rogers Kelsey was born on the 31st of January, 1888, and has just returned from a trip through several of the southern and western states. Le Claire, whose natal day was September 6, 1893, assists in the operation of the farm. Harold Mortimer, whose birth occurred August 21, 1903, has just begun his education in the district schools.

Mr. Kelsey is a republican in his political views, always giving the party the benefit of his support. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp and has held office in the local organization. A lifelong resident of Linn county, he needs no introduction to the readers of this volume. Many of his warmest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood to the present time—a fact which indicates that his life has been well spent and that his strongest qualities are those which win him respect and confidence.

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### JAMES ORBISON STEWART

James Orbison Stewart, familiarly known as Captain Stewart, is of Scotch-Irish descent and a native of Mercer county, Pennsylvania, having been born near North Liberty in that state, on the 3d of October, 1837. His father, John Stewart, removed with his family to Washington, Iowa, in 1844. His mother's maiden name was Waddell. Her father, who was of Scotch descent, was a soldier in the war of 1812.

James O. Stewart was a lad of only seven years when his parents came to Iowa and the journey was regarded by him at that age as the event of a life time. The trip was made long before the day of railroads and they sailed down the Ohio river from Allegheny City, Pennsylvania, and up the Mississippi to Keokuk, Iowa, from which point they made the remaining distance to Washington with horses and wagons, which they had brought for the purpose. In 1850, in the same primitive fashion the family removed to Cedar Rapids, which was then a tiny village. The country round about was sparsely settled and the family endured all the hardships and privations which are incident to early pioneer life in the west.

James Stewart acquired his education in the common schools but largely supplemented his knowledge by the experience gained in a country printing office. At the age of sixteen years he entered the office of the Progressive Era, the first paper published in Cedar Rapids, winning his first dollar by rolling and inking the type for the Iowa supreme court reports, which were printed on a hand press. After about six months' service in that capacity he was regularly apprenticed as the printer's devil for the fours years' term service, receiving the sum of thirty dollars the first year, fifty dollars the second year, seventy-five dollars the third year and one hundred dollars the fourth year. At this princely salary he was supposed to pay his board and clothe himself.

Mr. Stewart worked at the printer's trade until the spring of 1861, when he enlisted as a private soldier in Company K, First Iowa Infantry, on the first call for volunteers. He took part in the engagements of Mud Springs and Forsythe and the noted battle of Wilson's Creek, Missouri, where he received his first "glory mark" and in which the noble General Lyon fell while he was leading the First Iowa. In May, 1862, Mr. Stewart reenlisted, entering the service as first sergeant of Company B, Twentieth Iowa Infantry. He took part in all the marches and battles of the regiment, the more important being Prairie Grove, the siege of



Vicksburg, the battles of Fort Morgan and Fort Blakely and the capture of Mobile, Alabama. Soon after entering the service he was promoted to second lieutenant and later commissioned first lieutenant. He was also promoted to the rank of captain but was not mustered into the two latter offices owing to the reduced number of the company. During about eighteen months of his service he acted as adjutant of the regiment, an honor seldom conferred upon a second lieutenant. He also acted for a time as judge advocate of the Second Division of the Thirteenth Army Corps and later as mustering officer on the staff of General C. C. Andrews. In October, 1865, when mustered out of the service, he still held that position on the staff of General Joseph C. Mower for the Department of Texas.

On his return to civil life Mr. Stewart again took up the printer's trade and in 1866 bought a half interest in the Waverly Republican. On selling that paper he purchased the Clarksville Star, which he published for twelve years, building up a state reputation for himself and for the paper as an unswerving advocate of the principles of the republican party, to which he still adheres.

Captain Stewart has always been an enthusiastic Grand Army man and has held all the positions in the post from the lowest to the highest and also appointments on the staffs of the national and department commanders but his best work has been in the quiet aid to indigent comrades and other dependents. In 1884 he again took up his abode in Cedar Rapids and was connected as a writer and otherwise with various newspapers. In 1895 he was appointed deputy clerk of the United States circuit and district courts and United States commissioner for the northern district of Iowa. He takes an active interest in politics but is not a politician except in the better sense of the term. In all his long and active career he would never allow his name to be presented for an elective office although often urged to do so, preferring to aid others rather than hold office himself. He has therefore never served in an official capacity except that of deputy clerk of the United States circuit and district courts, and four years as assistant postmaster in his home city. He resigned his position and relinquished his office August 15, 1910, after serving continuously for fifteen years and is now engaged in business for himself in Cedar Rapids.

Mr. Stewart was married in 1868 to Miss Leah E. Alexander, of New York state, and they have one child, Raymond Grant Stewart, who is now a resident of Cedar Rapids and is following in the footsteps of his father as a printer. Mr. Stewart was reared in the faith of the United Presbyterian church and is a member of that society.

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### JOSEPH HRBEK

In the middle portion of the nineteenth century Joseph Hrbek figured prominently in industrial circles, being proprietor of one of the largest and most important blacksmith establishments in the city. As the name indicates, he was of Bohemian birth and was a splendid representative of that country which has furnished so many valuable citizens to Cedar Rapids. His birth occurred in 1837, his parents being Mathew and Katherine Hrbek, who were also natives of Bohemia. The father came to America at an early day, bringing his family and locating in Michigan, where both he and his wife died. In their family were nine children.

Joseph Hrbek was a young man when he left home and made his way to Milwaukee. He was married in that city to Miss Barbara Dolezal, who was born in Bohemia in 1842 and was a daughter of Thomas and Barbara Dolezal, also natives of that country, where they spent their entire lives. Mrs. Hrbek was one of a





family of five children and crossed the Atlantic to the United States when a young maiden of about fourteen years.

Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hrbek removed to Champaign, Illinois, where he worked as a blacksmith and wagonmaker, having previously learned the trades. His life was always given to industrial interests of that character. In 1866 he removed to Cedar Rapids and turned his attention to business interests here, building a two-story brick shop, in which he carried on blacksmithing and wagonmaking until his death. He was an excellent workman, thorough and reliable in all that he did, and his capability and integrity won him a liberal patronage.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hrbek were born nine children: Milvoj, Vlasta, Jacenka, Sarah, Jeffrey, and four who are now deceased. The daughter Sarah is adjunct professor of Bohemian at Lincoln, Nebraska. The death of Mr. Hrbek occurred in December, 1881. He had lived a busy and useful life and was a self-made man, his success being attributable entirely to his earnest and persistent labor. He had no influential friends to assist him in gaining a start nor did he depend upon fortunate circumstances but sought his advancement in the legitimate lines of trade, gaining a liberal patronage through merit. He had pleasing qualities that won him many friends and he was particularly widely and favorably known among the people of his own nationality. He rejoiced in his success because it enabled him to provide comforts for his family, and Mrs. Hrbek is still the owner of several valuable pieces of real estate in Cedar Rapids, from which she derives a gratifying annual income.

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#### RICHARD LORD, M. D.

With tireless energy, keen perception and ability to devise the right thing at the right time, with power to plan and to perform, Dr. Richard Lord has not only won a prominent place in the medical profession but is today recognized as one of the most successful business men of Cedar Rapids. He was born in Mantorville, Dodge county, Minnesota, on the 28th of October, 1868, and is descended from one of the oldest New England families, his direct ancestors being Thomas and Dorothy Lord, who came with their family to America from England with the Rev. Hooker and his flock in 1635, becoming the founders of Hartford, Connecticut, and the family has taken a prominent place in the succeeding history of New England.

The Doctor is the son of Samuel and Louisa (Compton) Lord. Samuel Lord's birth occurred in Meadville, Pennsylvania, where he continued to reside throughout his boyhood and youth. He received a good classical education, attending Allegheny College at Meadville, and subsequently took up the study of law, being admitted to the Pennsylvania bar. He was united in marriage to Miss Louisa Compton, and in 1860 they removed to Minnesota, where he successfully engaged in the practice of law throughout the remainder of his life. As a republican he took a very active and prominent part in local politics and was called upon to represent his district in the lower house of the general assembly. Later he was elected to the senate and became a prominent member of that body. High honors came to him in professional lines also, for he was made judge of the fifth judicial district and was serving on the bench at the time of his death, which occurred in 1880. His wife had passed away the year previous. They were people of prominence in the city where they resided and were faithful members of the Episcopal church.

In the family of this worthy couple were eight children, of whom four are still living, namely: Samuel, a distinguished attorney of Kasson, Dodge county,





Minnesota, and at one time a member of the state senate, has taken an active interest in political affairs and in 1900 was chairman of the Minnesota delegation at the republican national convention held in Philadelphia, and is at present serving as chairman of the state tax commission. Hugh C. is also prominent in republican politics and is a leading attorney of Erie, Pennsylvania. Myrtle is an artist of ability who devoted several years to study in Europe and is now living at Meadville, Pennsylvania. Richard completes the family.

In the state of his nativity Dr. Lord grew to manhood and was given good educational advantages, attending the high schools of Mantorville and Kasson and in the fall of 1890 began preparation for his chosen profession under the preceptorship of his cousin, Dr. C. L. Chambers, late of Kasson, Minnesota. Subsequently he entered the medical department of the University of Minnesota, where he attended one course of lectures, and then matriculated at Rush Medical College in Chicago, from which he was graduated with the class of 1893. After his graduation he did substitute practice in Michigan City and in Crary, North Dakota, for three or four months, and then located at Louisville, Nebraska, where he was engaged in practice until the summer of 1896, which witnessed his arrival in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. In the practice of his profession at this place he has met remarkable success, his patrons coming from many of the best families of the city.

Dr. Lord has not confined his attention wholly to his professional labors, but has become extensively interested in several land companies, owning a large amount of property in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan, and individually has extensive holdings in the first named state. It has been largely through his efforts that about fifteen thousand acres of land have been opened up and developed in Minnesota between Two Harbors and Duluth, which is being colonized by the best class of American citizens, progressive, energetic men, who have done much toward making that region a most productive agricultural one. Situated in the Knife River valley, it is a country of unusual beauty and a soil of exceptional fertility. As aids to its development he has installed a fully equipped sawmill and the most modern machinery for clearing the land. The Doctor is also identified with various business enterprises, being associated with the Glenn Voting Machine Company, the Aeme Fire Insurance Company, the LeFebure Ledger Company, and has various other financial interests in Cedar Rapids.

In 1894 was celebrated the marriage of Dr. Lord and Miss Jessie A. Leedy, a daughter of Henry M. and Mary Elizabeth (Johnston) Leedy, of New Providence, Iowa. Her parents dying when she was but a baby, she with an older brother, John W., were reared in the family of Mr. and Mrs. John Lang, of Wasioja, Minnesota. This brother is now professor of science at Central Holiness University at Oskaloosa, Iowa. The family residence at 1580 Third avenue is one of the finest of the city's many fine homes. The Doctor is prominent in professional circles and is a member of the Linn County Medical Society and also belongs to the Iowa Union Medical Society, the Iowa State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. He is supreme medical director of the Fraternal Bankers Reserve Society, in which capacity he has served since its organization. He is popular in fraternal as well as professional circles and is a member of Crescent Lodge, No. 25, A. F. & A. M.; Trowel Chapter, No. 49, R. A. M.; Apollo Commandery, No. 26; Iowa Consistory, No. 2, A. & A. S. R.; and El Kahir Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. He also belongs to Maine Lodge, No. 643, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America and other societies.

Dr. Lord is one of the city's foremost citizens and belongs to the Cedar Rapids Country Club and to the Cedar Rapids Commercial Club. Public-spirited and progressive, he is actively identified with various movements for the public good. He has given his attention to his professional interests with a success that is truly enviable. He has not cramped his interests by confining them to a few matters.



On the contrary his breadth of sympathy and his broad outlook upon life are among the many things that make him an esteemed citizen of Linn county. He is an alert, enterprising business man, rejoicing in opportunities for activity and in improving all the opportunities that have come to him he has found the success that places him in a prominent position among the leading business and professional men of this part of the state.

### JAMES MONROE BARTLESON

For fifty-six years James Monroe Bartleson has been identified with the business interests of Linn county and is today prominently identified with the mercantile interests of Center Point. A native of Pennsylvania, he was born in Philadelphia, December 31, 1835, his parents being Elijah and Hester Bartleson, both of whom were born in the vicinity of Philadelphia. From their native state they removed to Berkeley county, Virginia, in 1836, when our subject was only a year old, and there the father engaged in business as an architect and carpenter, becoming one of the leading builders of his locality. During the cholera epidemic of 1853 he died of that dread disease, and the mother of our subject passed away in 1850.

Thus at the age of eighteen years James M. Bartleson was left an orphan and following his father's death bound himself out as an apprentice to the carpenter's trade for a term of three years, to receive only his board and clothes in compensation for his labor. He worked but one year, however, for on going to spend Sunday with an uncle and returning a little too late on Monday morning his employer became angry and they severed their connections at once. Mr. Bartleson then secured a position at a dollar and a half per day and after working at his trade for two months managed to save thirty-nine dollars. With this amount in his pocket he started for Iowa, reaching Wapello in November, 1854. On leaving his old home in Virginia the weather was warm and sunshiny but on landing in Iowa he found snowy winter weather. Having on canvas shoes he was compelled to spend his last two dollars and a half for a pair of boots. He stopped at a hotel in Wapello and with his gun killed an abundance of game to supply the needs of the hotel, and the proprietor charged him nothing for his accommodations that winter. In the spring he secured a contract to build a house and after this was finished he and three other carpenters formed a co-partnership and engaged in building and contracting for some time, as there was much building to be done in those early days.

In November, 1855, Mr. Bartleson came to Marion, Linn county, and two weeks later settled at Center Point, where he had a brother-in-law and his parents living. Here he spent the following winter, during which time he took an ox team belonging to his brother-in-law's father, Samuel Mentzer, and hauled logs to a mill, where they were sawed into lumber. He then purchased a lot in Center Point for twenty-five dollars and on it erected a house, which he sold for eight hundred dollars, taking the man's note instead of a mortgage for the property. Shortly after selling, however, the purchaser went to Cedar Rapids, where he mortgaged the house for one thousand dollars and left the country, leaving Mr. Bartleson without recourse. For a time he continued to work at the carpenter's trade, but later accepted a position in the store of John Carr, whose daughter, Miss Amanda Carr, he married on the 11th of November, 1858. During the Civil war he and his father-in-law operated the stage line from Cedar Rapids to Waterloo under contract from the government for four years and following the expiration of this contract secured another for the same length of time. Mr. Carr then asked Mr. Bartleson whether he wanted the mercantile business in Center





Point or the stage route, and our subject chose the former, which he conducted for about twenty years, when he went to Marion, accepting the position of assistant manager of the Marion branch of the implement business of E. B. Alderman & Son, with whom he was connected for six years. In March, 1887, he returned to Center Point and established himself in the implement business at his present location. In 1898 he also embarked in the general mercantile business and still conducts both stores, having built up an excellent trade along those lines. He is a wide-awake and progressive business man and the success that has come to him is but the merited reward of industry, perseverance and good management. In addition to his business interests he is also a stockholder in the Linn County Savings Bank of Center Point.

Mr. Bartleson has been called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away in April, 1902. Unto them were born three children, namely: Ida, now the wife of William H. La Vell, who is manager of her father's mercantile business at Center Point; Emma, the wife of A. E. Dunbar, a general merchant of the same place; and John, deceased.

Mr. Bartleson is now serving as secretary of Vienna Lodge, No. 142, A. F. & A. M., of Center Point, and is also a member of Center Point Chapter, No. 390, O. E. S. His political support is given the democratic party and his fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, have called upon him to serve as township clerk for six years and as town and city clerk for the same length of time. He is a progressive and public-spirited citizen, who takes a commendable interest in public affairs and never withholds his support from any enterprise which he believes will advance the moral or material welfare of his community.

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#### ALBERT OXLEY

A deep feeling of sadness spread throughout Bertram township when it was announced that Albert Oxley had passed from this life, but while those who knew him remain his memory will be cherished because of his life of helpfulness, of good cheer, of broad sympathy and his deep interest in and labors for the benefit of his fellowmen. Mr. Oxley was born in Linn county, in 1849, a son of William and Mary (Grey) Oxley, who were natives of Indiana. They settled in Linn county at an early day, the father establishing his home on a farm, which he operated until 1864. He then disposed of that property and purchased two hundred acres in Washington county, Iowa, which he operated until his death, both he and his wife passing away at their home in that section of the state. Seven sons were born unto Mr. and Mrs. William Oxley, namely: Thomas, Albert, Perry, William, deceased, Randolph, Simpson and Jacob.

Albert Oxley was reared in the usual manner of farm lads of the period, assisting his father in the work of the home farm until he attained his majority. He then began life on his own account, purchasing one hundred acres of land in Marion township, this county, which he operated for ten years. He then disposed of that place to advantage and invested his money in a tract of ninety acres, also located in Marion township. This remained his home until 1900, when he sold and bought eighty acres on section 20, Bertram township, and to the cultivation of this place he gave his time and attention until his death, which occurred in 1901. He made some improvements on the place and brought the fields under a high state of cultivation, so that it annually yields good crops. This property is still in possession of Mrs. Oxley, who makes her home thereon.

In 1865 Mr. Oxley was married to Miss Sarah E. Patterson, a native of Marion township and a daughter of George and Eliza Jane Patterson. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Oxley were born three children, two daughters and a son, but the daughters.





Ellen C. and Mary E., are both deceased. The son, Albert M., is at home and assists his mother in the management of the farm.

Mr. Oxley gave his political support to the democratic party and while he was ever found loyal to the best interests of his county he never sought nor desired public office. He was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which his wife also belongs. He was a man most highly esteemed in the locality in which he so long made his home and his death was a source of regret not only in his own household but among his many friends and neighbors. His remains were interred in the Oak Shade cemetery at Marion.

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### JOSEPH I. BEATTY

The farming interests of Fayette township find a worthy representative in Joseph I. Beatty, who is a native of Iowa, his birth occurring in Benton county, on the 5th of October, 1879. His parents, Charles and Catherine (Wheelan) Beatty, were both natives of Ireland. The father came to this country with his parents at an early day and the mother was a young woman when she crossed the Atlantic, both becoming residents of Benton county, Iowa, where their marriage was celebrated and where they continued to reside up to the time of their death. The mother passed away December 1, 1904, and the father died in May, 1907. During his residence here he had steadily prospered until he became the owner of four hundred acres of very valuable land in Benton county and two hundred acres in Fayette township, Linn county. In politics he was a democrat and was honored with several local offices, having served as township trustee for a number of years.

During his boyhood and youth Joseph I. Beatty remained at home with his parents, pursuing his education in the public schools and acquiring an excellent knowledge of all the duties which fall to the lot of the agriculturist. In March, 1906, he married Miss Margaret Gasser, of Benton county, and they have become the parents of one child, Archibald C.

After his marriage Mr. Beatty located on his present farm in Fayette township, consisting of two hundred acres, which came into his possession on his father's death. He has since erected new buildings upon the place and improved it in such a manner that today it is one of the best farms of its size in his section of the county. In his farming operations he has been remarkably successful, for he is industrious, energetic and progressive, and in addition to his home place he now owns an eighty-acre tract cornering on his farm, so that he now has two hundred and eighty acres of very valuable land. His political support is given the democratic party but he has never taken a very active part in public affairs aside from voting. His wife holds membership in the Lutheran church and they have a large circle of friends and acquaintances throughout the community.

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### REV. TIMOTHY J. SULLIVAN

For twenty-one years the Rev. Timothy J. Sullivan has been pastor of St. Patrick's Catholic church of Cedar Rapids and during this period has largely promoted the interests of Catholicism among his parishioners and the people of the city. He has been most zealous in his efforts to advance the work of the church along its various lines of activity and his preaching at the same time has been an effective force for good in the lives of those who have come under his teaching.

His birth occurred in Glengariff, County Cork, Ireland, on the 15th of May, 1856, his parents being Timothy and Bridget (Crowley) Sullivan, who arrived



in America in 1863 and became residents of Sandwich, Massachusetts. They remained there for only a brief period, however, and in 1865 arrived in Iowa, becoming residents of Earlville. For some years Timothy Sullivan, Sr., superintended railroad construction in this state but at length retired from active business life, taking up his abode in Cedar Falls. His wife died in 1876.

They were the parents of eleven children, as follows: Mary, the wife of Cain Holland, of Floyd county, Iowa; John, roadmaster of the Illinois Central Railroad at Clinton, Illinois; Hannah, the wife of D. Holland; Patrick, who has supervision of the Illinois Central Railroad at Cherokee, Iowa; Timothy J., of this review; Josie, a resident of Denver, Colorado; Michael C., a priest, who is now a professor in St. Joseph's College, of Dubuque, Iowa; Agnes, the wife of P. C. Murray, of Sheldon, Iowa; Kate, the wife of J. Flynn, of New Hartford, Iowa; F. D., agent for the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha Railroad at Eau Claire, Wisconsin; and C. J., chief clerk in the office of his brother F. D.

In his boyhood days the Rev. Timothy J. Sullivan was a pupil in the schools of Massachusetts and of Earlville and Waverly, Iowa, pursuing a high-school course in the latter place. Determining to devote his life to the priesthood, he entered St. Joseph's College at Dubuque in 1875, and on the completion of his course there was ordained to holy orders on the 28th of May, 1882. For two years thereafter he remained in the college as an instructor and in September, 1884, was assigned to the parish at Sheldon, Iowa, continuing at that point until November, 1889. He has since been pastor of St. Patrick's Catholic church of Cedar Rapids. At first his parish was quite large, covering three and a half counties, necessitating his taking long rides to minister to the spiritual needs of his people. But as the country has become settled up this parish has been divided. On reaching Cedar Rapids Father Sullivan found the church property in very poor condition but at once purchased a lot and on the 18th of October, 1891, laid the corner-stone for the splendid church which now stands on the corner of First avenue and Fifth street West. It was dedicated August 28, 1892, and in connection therewith there is a good free parochial school which has been successfully conducted since September, 1892, and is now on a self-supporting basis, there being a large attendance from among the children of the parish. St. Patrick's church belongs to the archdiocese of Dubuque.

Father Sullivan makes friends wherever he goes, for he possesses a genial and congenial disposition, as well as a progressive and enterprising spirit, and his courtesy is unfailing. He is identified with the best literary interests of the city but never neglects his church work in the slightest degree, and in fact is a zealous advocate to the cause, putting forth every effort possible for the upbuilding of his church and the expansion of its influence.

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### THEOPHILUS THOMAS

Theophilus Thomas, a prominent and prosperous agriculturist of Fairfax township, is the owner of an excellent farm of two hundred acres on section 12. His birth occurred in Cambria county, Pennsylvania, on the 15th of November, 1856, his parents being Thomas R. and Marguerite (Evans) Thomas, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Wales. Thomas R. Thomas, whose natal year was 1818, was actively identified with general agricultural pursuits in the Keystone state for many years. On coming to Iowa he resumed farming and was successfully engaged in the work of the fields until called to his final rest in September, 1880. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Marguerite Evans and whom he wedded in Cambria county, Pennsylvania, was born in





1826 and was a maiden of sixteen when she accompanied her parents on their emigration to the United States. She departed this life May 11, 1910.

Mr. Thomas of this review was one of a family of nine children, the others being as follows: George W., who wedded Alice Shaw and now conducts a general mercantile establishment at Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania; Edward, who married Miss Hannah Ellis and follows farming in Johnson county; John, who wedded Samantha Ream and is a carpenter residing in Fairbury, Jefferson county, Nebraska; Howard, who was killed at the age of twenty-five years while acting as engineer on the Pennsylvania Central Railroad, leaving a wife, Frances (Brown) Thomas, and three children, Ross, Clinton and Alice; Elizabeth, the wife of Spencer Pate, who is a farmer by occupation; Robert L., an agriculturist of Johnson county, Iowa; Alexander, who wedded Miss Bertha Byron and follows the carpenter's trade in Perry, Iowa; and William, likewise a carpenter by trade, who lives at home.

Theophilus Thomas obtained his early education in a little log schoolhouse in his native county and when not busy with his text-books assisted his father in the work of the home farm, thus early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. In the spring of 1878, when a young man of twenty-two years, he removed with his parents to Johnson county, Iowa, there remaining for one year. He then took up his abode in Gage county, Nebraska, but after working by the month for about a year he returned to Johnson county, this state, his father having died during his absence. The operation of the home farm then claimed his attention for a period of three years, at the end of which time he bought a tract of forty acres for himself, but two years later sold the property to his mother. Subsequently he rented a farm from Mr. Swisher for two years and then once more removed to Nebraska, there working by the month for one year.

On the expiration of that period Mr. Thomas again took up his abode in Johnson county, Iowa, but twelve months later came to Linn county and located on the property which he now occupies, first working by the month for two years and also drilling wells for a year. He was here married in 1890 and four years later rented a farm. In 1893 he bought a tract of eighty acres and in 1895 purchased the old homestead of one hundred and twenty acres, so that his landholdings now comprise two hundred acres on section 12, Fairfax township. In addition to raising the cereals best adapted to soil and climate Mr. Thomas also conducts a dairy and in both branches of his business is meeting with gratifying success. The prosperity which he now enjoys is directly attributable to his own efforts, for he started out in life on his own account with a cash capital of but thirteen dollars. His farm is under a high state of cultivation and improvement, and he has long been numbered among the substantial and representative citizens of the community.

On the 20th of November, 1890, Mr. Thomas was united in marriage to Miss Carrie M. Miller, a daughter of Aquillar and Temperance (Phillips) Miller, who were natives of York county, Pennsylvania, and Richland county, Ohio, respectively. The father was born January 22, 1827, his parents being Samuel and Elizabeth (Winter) Miller, both natives of York county, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Elizabeth (Winter) Miller lived to attain the ripe old age of ninety-two years, passing away on the 15th of March, 1892. Her family numbered seven children, five sons and two daughters. Aquillar Miller, the father of Mrs. Thomas, lived in Ohio for a short time after leaving the Keystone state but in the spring of 1851 settled in Fairfax township, Linn county, Iowa. He acts as a deacon in the Christian church and now makes his home with our subject. The mother of Mrs. Thomas was a daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Hedrick) Phillips, who were farming people. Her natal day was November 29, 1825, and she passed away March 15, 1892.





Unto Aquillar and Temperance (Phillips) Miller were born the following children: Sarah E., whose birth occurred July 4, 1850; Mary J., who was born April 25, 1852, and died December 6, 1890; Samantha A., who passed away on the 18th of September, 1858; Thomas M., whose birth occurred November 5, 1855, and who died January 5, 1869; Jacintha A., whose natal day was October 5, 1857, and who passed away February 27, 1865; Jason L. S., born January 25, 1859, who died September 10, 1859; William E., whose birth occurred August 5, 1860, and who follows the plumber's trade in Seattle, Washington; Avery E., born December 21, 1863, who married Nellie L. Hill, a daughter of James Hill, of Cedar Rapids; and Carrie M., who first opened her eyes to the light of day on the 10th of October, 1867.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas have three children, namely: Ella M., whose birth occurred April 21, 1894; Glenn Harold, born May 6, 1896; and Elliott Aquillar, whose natal day was December 17, 1897. They have also reared and educated Lillie Stevenson, a daughter of Mrs. Thomas' sister Jane.

Mr. Thomas is a republican in his political views and has served for two terms as school director. Fraternally he is identified with the Royal Circle of Cedar Rapids and the Modern Brotherhood of America and formerly served as treasurer of the latter organization. He and his wife are devoted members of the Christian church, to which they contribute liberally of their time and means. Mr. Thomas has been deacon in the church for eight years. He is a man whom to know is to esteem and honor, his sterling qualities winning him the friendship and regard of a large circle of acquaintances.

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### THE SHEARER FAMILY

The Shearer family was founded in America during colonial days and several of its representatives participated in the Revolutionary war, while others have been prominently identified with public affairs and all have occupied honorable positions in life. The first to come to the new world was James Shearer, who was born in County Antrim, Ireland, in 1678, and on crossing the Atlantic in 1720 settled in Union, Connecticut, but later removed to Elbow Corners, now Palmer, Massachusetts, in 1726. He became a prominent man of the community and had charge of the building of the first church there. He died on the 21st of June, 1745, at the age of sixty-seven years. In his family were three sons, of whom John was the eldest. He was born in 1706 and in early manhood married Jane Williams. When the colonists resolved to throw off the yoke of British oppression he joined the Continental army as corporal, while his brother served as a lieutenant and participated in many battles. Other members of the family were also in the Revolutionary war, including Thomas and Reuben Shearer. John Shearer took part in the battles of Lexington, Saratoga and Bennington and was always found to be a brave and loyal soldier. He died in June, 1802, at the extreme old age of ninety-six years. In his family were eight children, of whom Noah Shearer is the next in direct line. He, too, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war, participating in the latter part of that struggle, and was in the battle of Bennington. He was born September 4, 1764, and at an early day left New England and removed to Western New York. He married Terzah Merriek, May 8, 1791, and to them were born seven children that reached maturity. His death occurred in 1849 when he had reached an advanced age.

John Little Shearer, a son of Noah, was born in Palmer, Massachusetts, February 12, 1804, and was reared upon a farm, acquiring his education in the district schools of the neighborhood. Losing his mother as he approached manhood, he went to New York and later spent several years in Ohio and Indiana.



In 1832 he enlisted for service in the Black Hawk war and subsequently secured a land warrant, which entitled him to a certain amount of land in the Mississippi valley. Subsequently he was engaged in merchandising in Otsego, Michigan, and while at that place he was married on the 3d of May, 1836, to Miss Elizabeth Ann Weare, commonly called by her relatives "Betsey," who was born in Derby Line, Vermont, April 11, 1812, and was the eldest child of John and Cynthia (Ashley) Weare. Later in the year of his marriage Mr. Shearer removed to Allegan, Michigan, where he continued to engage in mercantile pursuits for three years.

It was in 1839 that he came to Iowa and first located at what was then known as Bloomington but is now Muscatine. From there he removed to Cedar county, but in 1841 located a claim in Linn county prior to the surveying of this region. His place was located eighteen miles north of Marion and upon it he settled in the spring of 1841. The rude dwelling in which the family lived caused much sickness and Mr. Shearer was at length compelled to seek another location and a better dwelling. The only vacant dwelling available that would suit the purpose was a log cabin on the banks of Cedar river, five miles from the county seat and where a town site was much talked of. At that time there was only one other dwelling on the east bank of the river and it was occupied by a family named Shepard. Coming to Cedar Rapids in the summer of 1842, the Shearer family became the first permanent settlers of the city. Their first home was a log house built by John Young on the river between Fourth and Fifth avenues, and since that time they have been prominently identified with the upbuilding and development of this region.

Mr. Shearer was a man of more than ordinary ability, was industrious and persevering and was held in the highest esteem by all who knew him. He erected one of the first frame houses in Cedar Rapids on the lot now occupied by the Grand Hotel at First avenue and Third street. The studding and rafters of this structure were made of poles or small trees, shaped with a broad axe by his own hands. At that time lumber was very scarce and it required considerable time to convert the trees into building material, as most of the work was done by hand, but he persevered and finally completed the dwelling. For some years he served the town in the capacity of justice of the peace, being the first to hold that position in Cedar Rapids, and he and his wife were among the most active members of the First Presbyterian church, early becoming identified with its struggle for existence during pioneer days. For many years Mr. Shearer served as ruling elder, continuing to occupy that position up to the time of his death, which occurred on the 20th of February, 1859. His wife did not long survive him but passed away on the 9th of December of the same year. She was a woman of sterling worth in the community, the possessor of fine intellect and a tender, sympathizing heart and was always charitable and ready to aid and counsel the unfortunate or ailing. She was a rare woman, familiar with all the trials and hardships incident to life in a new country, and these she bore with heroic courage. She was one of the few who knew how to adapt herself to her environments and was always mistress of any situation no matter how trying. She had many warm friends among the early settlers and was always considered a true friend and a safe adviser. She was of greater value to the community than wealth and her death was mourned with sincere regret.

There were seven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Shearer, but three of the number died in infancy, while Cynthia died at the age of ten years in Canton, Illinois, and Mary M. died in Paterson, New Jersey, January 20, 1890. For many years the last named had been a successful and prominent educator in the Cedar Rapids public schools. She seemed especially adapted for this vocation, but on account of ill health was at length compelled to abandon her life work. She was a woman of rare excellence of character and earnest and active





piety. The only remaining daughter is Miss Elizabeth J. Shearer, who was for some years an active worker in the city missions of the east but now resides with her aunt, Mrs. Daniels, of Cedar Rapids. John Weare Shearer, the only son, is now a resident of Algona, Iowa, and is editor of the local newspaper at that place known as the Upper Des Moines-Republican.

John Weare Shearer, son of John Little Shearer, was born in 1855 in a concrete house which formerly stood on the corner of B avenue and North Second street, Cedar Rapids, which at that time was the home of his mother's brother, John Weare, for many years president of the First National Bank. In 1880 J. W. Shearer was married to Carrie A. Walter, eldest daughter of Dr. L. J. and Mrs. D. M. Walter, the latter of whom is still a resident of Cedar Rapids, her husband passing away in 1892. Four daughters were born to Mr. and Mrs. Shearer. The eldest, Harriette Gertrude, was married to R. B. Allard in September, 1904, and is a resident of West Waterloo, Iowa. Lilah Elizabeth was united in marriage to James David Keister in June, 1910, and is a resident of Cedar Rapids, Mr. Keister being the chemist for the Douglas Starch Works. The other two, Mary Weare and Katharine Daniels Shearer, live with their parents in Algona, Iowa.

J. W. Shearer was a printer by trade and learned the business in the old Observer office in Cedar Rapids, which later became the Cedar Rapids Republican and in which office Mr. Shearer continued to work the larger part of the time for about twenty-eight years, or until he started into country newspaper work for himself which continues to be his life business.

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#### JACOB J. KOCHER

Jacob J. Kocher, now serving as trustee of Fayette township, was born in Switzerland, on the 30th of August, 1857, his parents, Benedict and Louise (Zigerly) Kocher, being natives of the same country, where the mother continued to reside up to the time of her death. Subsequently in 1886 the father came to the United States and located in Palo, Iowa, making his home with our subject. Later he went to Arkansas and bought a farm of two hundred and twenty-five acres and lived there for some years, but finally returned to Palo, where he passed away in October, 1897.

Surrounded by the grandeur of the Alps, Jacob J. Kocher grew to manhood and in the free schools of his native land acquired a good practical education. It was in 1880 that he crossed the broad Atlantic and became a citizen of the United States. For two years he worked in a brickyard in Fairview, Erie county, Pennsylvania, and then came west, becoming a resident of Linn county, Iowa. Here he hired out as a farm hand, working two years for Norman and John Ives upon a farm near Marion. He was next employed for a short time in a creamery in Marion, but the greater part of his time and energies have been devoted to agricultural pursuits. In the spring of 1885, however, he removed to Palo, where he conducted a meat market, but not long afterward he resumed farming and continued to operate rented land until 1900, when he bought his present place of seventy-two acres, on which he has since resided and to the improvement and cultivation of which he has since devoted his time and attention with good results.

Mr. Kocher was married on the 23d of October, 1884, to Miss Mary Tuescher, of Otter Creek township, a daughter of Frederick Tuescher, who was born in Switzerland. Four children blessed this union, namely: Bertha, who is now serving as assistant postmaster at Palo; Della, the wife of Carl McArthur, of Fayette township; and Charles and Louise, both at home.





Mr. Koehler gives his political allegiance to the republican party and has become prominently identified with local politics. In the fall of 1908 he was elected to the board of township trustees and is now filling that office in a commendable and satisfactory manner. He has also served two terms on the school board and never withholds his support from any measure which he believes calculated to promote the moral, intellectual or material welfare of the community in which he lives. Both he and his wife are earnest and faithful members of the Lutheran church.

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#### WILLIAM G. THOMAS

William G. Thomas, connected with railroad interests in the operative and administrative departments, being now chief clerk at large for the sixth district, was born in Andrew, Jackson county, Iowa, on the 20th of April, 1860. His father was Benjamin Franklin Thomas, who was born at Harbour Creek, Erie county, Pennsylvania, October 9, 1834. The grandfather, William Thomas, came to Iowa with his family in 1850, settling in Jackson county upon a farm near Andrew. Desiring an education which he believed would promote his usefulness and worth in the world, Benjamin F. Thomas early began work as a farm hand with the end of obtaining the means necessary to continue his education. At length he entered the State Normal at Andrew and subsequently engaged in teaching for a time, after which he began the study of law, devoting the remainder of his life to active practice. His preliminary reading was directed by the firm of Osgood & Streeter, prominent attorneys at Joliet, Illinois, with whom he remained for three years and was then admitted to the bar. Benjamin F. Thomas located for practice in Monticello, Minnesota, and it was during his practice there that he was married, on the 15th of July, 1859, to Miss Mary E. Gallow. The following year witnessed their removal to Andrew, Iowa, and through his remaining days Mr. Thomas continued an important factor in the development of Jackson county. He proved himself the friend of young men who studied law in his office and who gave to him their unqualified allegiance, respect and love. In the '80s he established his home at Maquoketa, where he lived up to the time of his death, his law practice being second to none in volume and importance. A contemporary biographer said of him that he "was a man of gentle nature and good heart, always ready to help a friend. Although a lawyer and in love with his profession, he did his best to discourage litigation and would even sacrifice a fee if he thought it best for the client whom he served. While a man of strong convictions, he never obtruded his opinions upon others, yet ever gave respectful attention when other men expressed their views. He sought to govern by persuasion and to lead by gentleness rather than power and by these methods often won his ends. For many years he was active in religious work and was superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Sunday school until advanced age caused him to put aside that work. He enjoyed the respect of his neighbors and friends and throughout the community was known as a loving father, a faithful companion and a loyal citizen." His family numbered five children: B. F., who is now postmaster at Omaha, Nebraska; William G.; Mrs. Charles Patterson, of Maquoketa; Charles M., an attorney of Maquoketa; and Mrs. Lucile Eyr, who is deceased.

William G. Thomas, spending his youthful days in his parents' home, devoted his time to the pleasures of youth and the acquirement of an education in the public schools, supplemented by study in Cornell College at Mount Vernon, Iowa. He began teaching in the district schools when eighteen years of age and devoted his time to that work through seven terms. In 1882 he attended college in Mount



Vernon, after which he was employed in Dunn's clothing store in Maquoketa for two years. On the 21st of September, 1885, he was appointed to a position in the railway mail service, running between Maquoketa and Davenport, and seven months later was transferred to the line running out of Chicago over the Chicago, Savannah & Cedar Rapids Railroad to Marion. He was upon this line until January 28, 1908, at which time he was appointed chief clerk at large of the sixth division, with headquarters at Cedar Rapids, having jurisdiction over Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska and Wyoming. Being a young man and with twenty-five years of actual experience in connection with the railway mail service we may look for further advancement along the lines of the position he has so faithfully filled for so many years.

In 1897 Mr. Thomas was married to Miss Elenora N. Miller, of Olin, Iowa. In politics he is a republican and fraternally holds membership in Crescent Lodge, No. 25, F. & A. M., while in the Iowa Consistory he has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite. He is also a prominent member of Star of the West Lodge, No. 1, Knights of Pythias, and was grand vice chancellor of the order in 1896. He is still very prominent in the state work of that organization. Holding membership in St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal church, he is now serving on its official board and is chairman of the social department of the Wesleyan class, numbering one hundred and sixty-nine members. He takes active interest in church and fraternal work, those things which count for moral progress, for the establishment of high ideals of living and for larger enjoyment of social companionship among men.

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#### W. H. STEPANEK

Identified with the hardware trade throughout the period of his connection with commercial interests and making steady progress in this line, W. H. Stepanek is now one of the leading hardware merchants of Cedar Rapids, being the senior member of the firm of Stepanek & Vondracek Hardware Company. He was born in Linn county, on the 8th of May, 1868, a son of Joseph and Anna Stepanek. His father, who was a native of Bohemia and in the early '60s came to Linn county, was a blacksmith by trade and followed that pursuit for some time. After coming to Linn county he turned his attention to farming, in which he continued with excellent success for a long period. He died in July, 1903.

In the public schools of this city W. H. Stepanek continued his education which he had begun in the district schools of the county and later he pursued a business course in the Cedar Rapids Business College. Thus qualified for the practical and responsible duties of commercial life he entered the employ of Swab & Company, hardware merchants, in 1890, and remained with them for four years, during which time he gained intimate and comprehensive knowledge of the business. In 1894 he formed a partnership with A. W. Vondracek and they opened a hardware store on a small scale. From the beginning they were accorded a liberal patronage and in 1896 removed to their present location, where they have a store room well suited to the needs of their extensive and growing business, at the corner of Second street and Second avenue. They have built up their trade along substantial lines and have sought success in conformity with a high standard of commercial ethics and at all times have enjoyed the confidence and trust of the general public.

In June, 1891, Mr. Stepanek was united in marriage to Miss Josephine Castek, a daughter of Joseph and Anna Castek, of Cedar Rapids. They have one son, Leo. Mr. Stepanek belongs to a number of fraternal and social organizations, including the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Pythias





and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, together with some Bohemian societies, including the C. S. P. S. and the Z. C. B. J. He is active in politics as a supporter of the republican party and has served as alderman at large. In March, 1910, he was elected to the city council and holds the position of commissioner of accounts and finances. He does all in his power to secure the success of the principles in which he believes and is a man of considerable influence in local political circles. He has also proven a friend to the public schools in his service on the school board and gives active endorsement to every object and measure which he deems will benefit the city or promote the general welfare in the lines of intellectual, material, political, social and moral advancement. He takes great delight in automobiling and travel.

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### HIRAM I. BOOTH

With the farming interests of Fayette township the Booth family has long been prominently identified and he whose name introduces this sketch now owns and operates a good farm within its borders. A native of Ohio, he was born in Licking county, on the 1st of February, 1847. His father, Isaiah Booth, was a native of New York state and was educated for the ministry. While attending Granville College, now Denison University, from which he was graduated in 1844, he became acquainted with Phoebe H. Jones who was pursuing her studies in the academy at the same time and she afterward became his wife. She, too, was born in New York but during her girlhood had removed with her parents to the Buckeye state. Instead of devoting his time to ministerial work the father commenced teaching at Lancaster, Ohio, where he conducted a select school for eight years. At the end of that time his health failed and he came to Linn county, Iowa. He located on a farm in College township, four miles southeast of Cedar Rapids, and for ten years was engaged in agricultural pursuits. In the meantime, in 1851, he erected the first frame house built in that township. In 1862 he went to Kansas, but three years later returned to Iowa and settled on his farm in College township. In 1870, however, he crossed the plains to California on account of his health, but after the family had received three letters from him they heard nothing more and it is supposed that he died suddenly among strangers or was murdered for the money which he had with him. The mother of our subject passed away on the old home place in 1879.

Hiram I. Booth passed his boyhood and youth in much the usual manner of farm lads and the knowledge which he acquired in the district schools was supplemented by one year's attendance at Western College. For three terms he engaged in teaching school but since that time has devoted his entire time to agricultural pursuits, owning sixty-one and one-half acres of his present farm. In 1872 he went to Colfax county, Nebraska, where he homesteaded eighty acres, living thereon for five years, during which time the grasshoppers ate his crops every year. Becoming discouraged there, he then returned to his farm in Fayette township, this county, and has since engaged in its cultivation with marked success. He has added to the property from time to time until he now owns one hundred and twenty-six and one-half acres that he has placed under a high state of cultivation and improved with good and substantial buildings.

On the 14th of November, 1869, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Booth to Miss Rhoda D. Nelson of College township and they have become the parents of eleven children, ten of whom are still living, namely: Carrie R.; Abbie A.; Phoebe D.; Julia B.; Mary D.; Berith L.; Esther C.; Isaiah J.; Harvey W. and Vera O. Since attaining his majority Mr. Booth has affiliated with the democratic party but at local elections where no issue is involved he votes for the men





whom he believes best qualified for office regardless of party lines. He has been called upon to serve as a member of the board of township trustees and was assessor of his township for several years and for more than a quarter of a century has been a member of the school board. He has always been found prompt and faithful in the discharge of any duties imposed upon him and he is justly regarded as one of the leading citizens of his community. Both he and his wife are consistent members of the Seventh Day Adventist church and their lives have ever been such as to gain for them the esteem and friendship of a large circle of acquaintances.

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### JOSEPH BECICKA

Among the business enterprises which are contributing to the commercial activity and growth of Ely is numbered that of which Joseph Becicka is the owner. He has for some years been well known here as a dealer in lumber, shingles, lath, sash and doors and enjoys a large trade which extends over the southern portion of Linn county and the northern portion of Johnson county. The name indicates his Bohemian lineage. He was born at Horky, Bohemia, December 22, 1867, and is the second son of John and Anna (Elias) Becicka. The father, who was born in 1828, was a merchant in his native country. The mother was born in 1834. They were reared, educated and married in Bohemia and in 1885 crossed the Atlantic to the new world, settling near Ely in Linn county, Iowa. For a considerable period the father followed farming in College township and through his untiring industry, intelligently directed, he acquired a comfortable competence that now enables him to live retired, and both he and his wife still make their home in Cedar Rapids. They have a son Samuel, who is a fresco painter and decorator of that city. Their daughters are Mrs. Dostal, Mrs. Joseph Bulicek and Mrs. Godfrey Kun, all residents of Cedar Rapids.

Joseph Becicka, whose name introduces this record, pursued his education in the schools of his native country and also spent one term as a pupil in the public schools of College township. He came with his parents to the United States when seventeen years of age and after putting aside his text-books he began earning his living by working as a farm hand. Ambitious and energetic, he saved his money until his economy and careful expenditure enabled him in 1892 to establish a lumber business at Ely with John Filipi, where he has since been closely associated with trade interests. He has been quite successful in the intervening period of eighteen years and now has a profitable and growing business, his trade extending largely over the southern portion of Linn county and the northern portion of Johnson county. He is ever found reliable in his dealings, and his business integrity is never questioned.

In June, 1893, Mr. Becicka was married to Miss Mary Zvacek, a daughter of Frank and Mary (Filipi) Zvacek, who were pioneer settlers of College township, where they became successful farming people. They, too, were natives of Bohemia and in their youth came to America. Since 1856 they have lived in Linn county, arriving here before the railroads were built. Mr. Zvacek settled upon a forty-acre tract of rough timber land on section 33, Putnam township, and at once cleared away the trees and developed his fields. He continued to improve the property for some time, when he sold it and purchased eighty acres in what is now College township. Prospering as the years went by, he added to his property from time to time until on his retirement he had two hundred and eighty acres of highly improved land and twenty-five acres of timber land. He first made his home in Wisconsin and from that state drove across the country to Cedar county with a yoke of oxen. The original home of the family was a log



cabin, in which some of the children were born. After carrying on general agricultural pursuits for a long period Mr. Zvacek retired to private life and is now living in Ely in the enjoyment of a well earned rest. The father was born in 1844 and the mother in 1852. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Zvacek are: Mrs. Fanny Stanek; Emma, the wife of John Zezula; Agnes, the wife of George Chadinea; Lillie and Libbie, at home; Charles, in Cedar Rapids; and Frank, who follows farming.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Beeicka have been born two children: Mary, who was born July 8, 1894, and Joseph, born September 1, 1895, both having been educated in the schools of Ely. The parents are members of the Bohemian Reformed church and Mr. Beeicka belongs to Ely Lodge, No. 581, I. O. O. F., and Ely Lodge, No. 325, A. O. U. W. He is independent in his political views, supporting the men and measures whom he regards as best qualified for office without considering party affiliation. For a quarter of a century he has been a resident of Linn county and, improving his opportunities throughout that entire period, has steadily worked his way upward, winning success which is the merited reward of his earnest labor and close application.

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### JESSE H. SMITH, M. D.

The character of the individual is determined by his utilization of his opportunities, his employment of his talents and his fulfillment of his obligations to mankind. In all these particulars Dr. Jesse H. Smith measures up to the highest standard and his life is recognized as one of large usefulness in the county and state in which he has long made his home. His enterprise and adaptability in business, his loyalty and progressiveness in political circles and his broad humanitarianism and philanthropy have all indelibly engraven his name upon the pages of Iowa's annals. He is probably today the oldest president of a fire insurance company in the United States, having since 1869 occupied the position of chief executive officer of the Farmers Insurance Company.

He was born in Elkhart county, Indiana, August 27, 1837, and is a son of Isaac and Sarah (Thomas) Smith, who were natives of Ohio and Virginia respectively. The father was a farmer by occupation and made stock-raising on an extensive scale one of the chief features of his business. In 1853 he came to Iowa, settling in College township, Linn county. He purchased sixteen hundred acres of land in this county and continued to engage actively in agricultural pursuits until October, 1880, when he was called to his final rest, at the venerable age of eighty years. His wife died in 1870, at the age of sixty-nine years.

Dr. Jesse H. Smith, the sixth in order of birth in his father's family of six children, spent his youthful days to the age of fifteen years in his native county and then accompanied his parents to Linn county, Iowa. His youth was passed on a farm and his preliminary education was acquired in the usual log school houses of the pioneer days. He became one of the first students in Western College in the town of Western, Linn county, spending two years in study there, and his more specifically literary course constituted a broad foundation upon which to build his professional knowledge. In January, 1858, he began reading medicine under the direction of Drs. Milligan and Taylor and subsequently attended lectures at Rush Medical College at Chicago, being graduated from that institution with the class of 1860. He first began practice in Cedar Rapids, where he continued for over sixteen years, being much of that time in partnership with Dr. Mansfield, one of the first physicians of this city.

Since his retirement from the field of professional service he has devoted his time largely to the interests of the Farmers Insurance Company, of which he is





the president. He became identified with this company when it was a mutual company. It is now the oldest corporation in Linn county. In 1868 it was organized as a joint stock company and in January, 1869, Dr. Smith was elected to the presidency and has since guided its destinies. Its affairs were in a deplorable condition when he assumed its management. He closely studied the situation and bent his energies to administrative direction and executive control. A change was soon noticeable in the business of the company and its growth has been continuous under his management to the present time, until it is today recognized as one of the soundest companies of the kind in the United States. He has made it what it claims to be, a protective insurance company and not an organization for the benefit of a few at the sacrifice of the many as various insurance companies have been. Its business policy has always been such as would bear the closest scrutiny, no fictitious methods of business being employed, its course at all times conforming to the old and time tried maxim that honesty is the best policy. Into other fields Dr. Smith has extended his efforts and is now one of the directors and the vice president of the Cedar Rapids & Iowa City Railway & Light Company. Moreover, he has extensive farming interests, owning over eight hundred acres of valuable land. He now gives his attention largely to his farm, which is the old homestead of his father and which is one of the valuable agricultural properties of this part of the state.

Dr. Smith has been recognized as one of the republican leaders of Linn county and belongs to that class of men who have sought to make the party stand for principle and not for the furtherance of the interests of certain individuals. While high political honors have been conferred upon him, he has never placed personal ambition or aggrandizement before the party welfare or the interests of the commonwealth. In 1875 he was elected mayor of Cedar Rapids for a two years' term and again filled the office in 1878 and 1879. In 1888 he was elected state senator from Linn county for a term of four years, which covered an important epoch in the history of the state, during which legislation of far reaching moment was enacted. In 1900 he was a delegate at large from Iowa to the republican national convention which nominated McKinley and Roosevelt at Philadelphia.

Dr. Smith has been married twice. In 1862 he wedded Lucy Henderson, a daughter of John W. Henderson. She died October 20, 1863, leaving one child, Edward H., who was born March 20, 1863. In 1866 he wedded Mary E. Ward, of Illinois, who died in April, 1904, leaving a son, Isaac B., who was born January 20, 1868.

Dr. Smith is an Episcopalian in religious faith and a Mason in his paternal relations. Both organizations find him a worthy exponent of their principles and in the latter he has attained high rank, having reached the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite in the consistory, while of the Mystic Shrine he is also a member. He has been president of the Masonic Temple Association since its organization and was one of the organizers of St. Luke's Hospital Association in 1887, since which time he has been its president. His deep interest in this is manifest in his active and helpful cooperation and his untiring efforts to promote its growth and extend the field of its usefulness. He belongs to the Cedar Rapids Country Club and to the Commercial Club and his sincere cordiality has made him a favorite in the prominent social circles in which he has always moved.

For the past twenty years he has spent his winters in the south or in California and he has traveled extensively throughout the entire country. There is no more splendid example of the self-made man in Linn county than Dr. Smith, his career being a striking example of what may be accomplished by one who must look to self-reliance, industry and perseverance for success. The possibilities of high position afforded in the United States to industry and fidelity were never better illustrated than in the case of Dr. Smith. In his youth he worked for whatever the world was to bring him of enjoyment or honors. He





has reached the evening of life not only possessed of wealth and past political honors but also of exalted social position and of a mind enriched by travel and by constant mingling with men and women of the highest breeding, education and accomplishments. He is today possessed of almost everything that men covet as of value and in the midst of his success he has found time for the finer things that our self-made men are so prone to overlook — aid in money and personal attention to schools and churches, beneficence to charitable institutions and the artistic adornment of his home and of his city.

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### HENRY E. MASON

Henry E. Mason, who is an enterprising and successful farmer of Bertram township, was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, on the 4th of October, 1851, a son of Robert and Susannah (Brauneller) Mason. The father was a native of Virginia, while the mother was born in the Buckeye state. They spent their married life in Ohio and to them were born ten children of whom four are deceased. With the exception of Henry E. all the others live in Ohio. Both the parents are now deceased, their death occurring in that state.

Henry E. Mason was reared in the state of his nativity and assisted his father in his work until he had reached the age of twenty-six years. He then rented land in Ohio, which he operated for ten years, and subsequently sought the broader opportunities of the middle west, coming to Linn county, Iowa. He has made farming and stock-raising his work since coming to this state and now rents a farm of two hundred and forty acres in Bertram township.

Mr. Mason was married to Miss Clara Sawyer, a daughter of William and Isabel Sawyer, both of whom died in Ohio. Mrs. Mason is one of six children born to her parents, of whom four are now living, the other three making their home in Ohio. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Mason have been born three children: Valid F., who married Flora Munn and lives at home; Orval C., who married a Miss Walters and lives in Bertram township; and Merrill M., still under the parental roof.

In politics Mr. Mason is a republican and his fellow townsmen have called upon him to fill a number of local offices. He has served as alderman of Mount Vernon, has been school director and at the present time is serving as trustee of Bertram township. His fraternal relations connect him with Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 551, I. O. O. F., in which he has filled the chair of noble grand. Both he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church, in which he has served as trustee. Mr. Mason is a man of worth in the community in which he makes his home. He takes a deep interest in public affairs, lending his aid and influence in the cause of every good movement and heartily promoting the progress and advancement of his locality.

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### FRED KERN

One by one the soldiers of the Civil war have answered the last roll call. They have bivouaced on the other side of the river when their last march was completed, but history remains to tell the story of their bravery and their loyalty. Among those that Iowa sent to the country's defense when rebellion threatened the destruction of the Union Fred Kern was numbered. He was equally faithful to his duties of citizenship in days of peace and Cedar Rapids numbered him among her representative and valued residents.



He was a native of Switzerland, born on the 22d of May, 1849, but was only two years of age when his parents left the land of the Alps and crossed the Atlantic to the new world, settling at Muscatine, Iowa. There he was educated in the public schools and spent his youthful days. When a young man he entered the steamship service on the lower Mississippi river and devoted several years thereto, but after the outbreak of the Civil war he returned to the north to enlist with the Iowa troops, who were marching to the front in defense of the old flag. He joined Company E, of the Sixteenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, one of the regiments composing the famous Crocker Iowa Brigade, participating in many hotly contested battles and in all of the marches and movements in which his regiment took part. When the country no longer needed his aid, victory having crowned the Union arms, he returned to the north and established his home in Sigourney, Iowa, where he engaged in business for a few years.

In 1886 Mr. Kern removed to Cedar Rapids, where he established a bakery. His place on Second street was one of the best known in the city and he prospered in his undertakings, securing an extensive and gratifying trade. He held to a high standard of excellence in his output and his reasonable prices and thoroughly reliable dealing were also elements in his success. As he prospered with the passing of the years he made investment in real estate until he became one of the large property owners of the city.

Mr. Kern was married in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, in 1877, to Miss Katherine Nevin, whose brother, John Nevin, was for a number of years associated in business with Mr. Kern in Cedar Rapids. Her father, Edward Nevin, was a native of Ireland. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Kern were born two sons, George H. and Fred E., who still survive the father, whose death occurred on the 6th of February, 1899, at San Diego, California, where he had spent the winters for several years.

In his political views Mr. Kern was ever a stalwart republican, espousing the cause of the party which was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery and which proved the defense of the Union during the dark days of the Civil war. He was a very prominent and popular member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity and maintained pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in the Grand Army of the Republic. During the thirteen years of his residence in Cedar Rapids he made for himself a leading and creditable position in business circles, and his social qualities, too, won him many friends. In his life he manifested many of the sterling traits of his Swiss ancestry — a people whose bravery, courage and determination seems to partake of the ruggedness and of the strength of the mountains among which they were reared.

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#### CHARLES O. BARRY

Charles O. Barry, the well and popular postmaster of Walker, is one of Iowa's native sons, his birth having occurred in Jackson county, September 10, 1868. His parents, Nicholas J. and Mary S. (French) Barry, were natives of New York and Pennsylvania respectively and it was during the latter part of the '50s or early '60s that they came west, the mother's people locating in Illinois across the river from Muscatine, while the father's family settled near Bellevue, Jackson county. While residing there the father entered the Union army, becoming a member of Company K, Thirty-first Iowa Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until honorably discharged for disability. He was with Sherman on his famous march to the sea and after the close of hostilities was honorably discharged and returned to this state. He located at Lamotte, where he worked at his trade as a harnessmaker until 1874, which year witnessed his arrival in Walker. Here he



made his home until called to his final rest in 1890. His widow is still living and now resides with her son Justin in Walker.

During his boyhood and youth Charles O. Barry received a good practical education in the common schools and remained at home with his parents. As a young man he worked at the carpenter's trade for a time and was later employed in the creamery at Walker for four years. In the meantime his father had been appointed postmaster of Walker and he assisted in the office, continuing to carry on affairs after the father's death when his mother was appointed postmistress. He practically had charge of the office until Grover Cleveland was elected to the presidency, when, being a republican, the office passed into other hands. In the meantime he and his brother Justin had acquired the printing plant of the Walker News and after pursuing a commercial course in the Cedar Rapids Business College he returned to Walker and entered the printing office, being a partner of his brother in its operation. They have since carried on the paper and have made it one of the leading journals of this section of the state. On the 1st of March, 1898, Mr. Barry was appointed postmaster and is now filling that office in a most creditable and satisfactory manner, having early become familiar with the duties which devolve upon him in this connection.

On the 23d of June, 1897, Mr. Barry was united in marriage to Miss Ella M. Edwards, of Walker, and to them was born one child, who died in infancy. They have since adopted a son, Charles Paul, whom they are now rearing. By his ballot Mr. Barry has always supported the men and measures of the republican party and has taken an active and commendable interest in public affairs. For the past five years he has served as president of the Iowa branch of the National League of Postmasters and prior to that time served one year as secretary of the organization. He has been sought to allow his name to be used for the office of national president but has refused the honor. Fraternally he is a member of Walker Lodge, No. 498, I. O. O. F., and is a man prominent in business, social and political circles, for he is a wide-awake and progressive citizen, whose genial, pleasant manner has gained him a host of warm friends.

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### JOSEPH SINDELAR

Joseph Sindelar, a representative of one of the old Bohemian families of Cedar Rapids, his native city, was born December 13, 1876, and is a son of Ignatz and Anna (Krejci) Sindelar, who were natives of Bohemia, where they were reared and married. In 1869 they crossed the Atlantic to the United States, landing at New York city, but did not tarry on the eastern coast. They made their way at once into the interior of the country, with Cedar Rapids as their destination. Mr. Sindelar was a tailor by trade but as there was no work to be secured in that line at the time, he accepted any employment which would give him an honest livelihood, being engaged in various kinds of labor. For some months he was employed on the section and he also sawed wood and worked on the construction of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railway. When two years had passed he found employment at his trade and for thirty-five years worked at the tailor's bench in Cedar Rapids. He then established a saloon, which he conducted for eight years, when in 1901 he turned over the business to his two sons, Frank and Joseph, with Charles Rubek as a partner. This business was conducted under the firm style of Sindelar Brothers & Rubek.

In 1902 Joseph Sindelar became sole proprietor of the business, which he has since conducted independently. He was reared at home and attended the public schools of this city until about seventeen years of age, when he began serving an apprenticeship to the tailor's trade under his father, following that pursuit for





four years. He continued as his father's assistant when the latter retired from tailoring and entered the saloon business. The son was associated therewith until 1898, at which time he enlisted for service in the Spanish-American war and was with the army for three years, becoming a member of the band of the Fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He enlisted from Cleveland, Ohio, whither he had gone about the time of the outbreak of the war between the United States and Spain. He was with that command for about a year and after the close of hostilities was honorably discharged. He then reenlisted in the Thirty-second United States Infantry for service in the Philippines, in which field he continued for two years. On his return to the United States in 1901 he became associated with his brother Frank and with Mr. Rubek in purchasing the father's saloon business, and one year later Joseph Sindelar became sole proprietor.

In his political views Mr. Sindelar is a republican, always giving his allegiance to the party. He belongs to the Fraternal Order of Eagles; to the Foresters of America; to the Catholic Turners Society; to Rad Mladoceeh, Z. C. B. J.; Dram Kluh Ceska Lipa; and the Kadets of St. George, Z. C. K. J. He is also a member of the Bohemian Catholic church and is serving on its board of trustees.

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### JOHN BEATTY

For over fifty-five years John Beatty has now been a resident of Fayette township and is numbered among the most substantial farmers of the community. His early home, however, was on the other side of the Atlantic, for he was born in Ireland, July 12, 1836, a son of Walter and Ann (Armstrong) Beatty, also natives of the Emerald isle, who brought their family to the United States in 1850 and lived for four years in Morgan county, Ohio. In 1854 they came to Linn county, Iowa, and located in Fayette township on the farm where our subject now resides. Here the father died in 1877. He was a very industrious, energetic man, and his labors were crowned with success so that at the time of his death he owned about two hundred and fifty acres of good farming land.

Being only fourteen years of age when the family crossed the Atlantic, John Beatty has spent the greater part of his life in this country and is indebted to the public schools for the educational privileges he enjoyed. He grew to manhood in Linn county and throughout his business career has carried on farming. In 1863 he went to Kansas, where he remained until 1877, when he returned to Linn county and bought land in Franklin and Montgomery counties, but after the death of his father he returned to the old homestead, the farm having passed into the possession of himself and sister who has since died. Besides this farm he owns other property to the amount of about six hundred acres and in its cultivation has met with marked success, being today regarded as one of the most successful farmers and substantial citizens of the township. By his ballot he usually supports the men and measures of the democratic party but has taken no active part in politics aside from voting, preferring to give his undivided attention to his agricultural interests.

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### JOSEPH J. KRIZ

A well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres, located on section 19, College township, is the home of Joseph J. Kriz, who devotes his time to general farming and stock-raising. He is a native of Bohemia, born August 2, 1863, and when three years of age was brought to America by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kriz, who were born in that country in 1841, the year 1871 witnessing their arrival in the new world. They established their home on a farm of



eighty acres in College township, which is still their place of residence. With them are two daughters, Mary and Antony, and they also have a daughter, Mrs. Emma Kovar, living in Cedar Rapids.

Joseph J. Kriz spent the period of his boyhood and youth as most farm boys do, pursuing his studies in the public schools and indulging in the pleasures and sports of youth, while in the periods of vacation he was trained in the work of the fields. At the age of eighteen years he put aside his text-books and from that time until his twenty-fourth year he gave his father the benefit of his labor. He then began business on his own account by operating forty acres of the home place and as the years have passed and he has prospered he has added to his holdings until his farm now embraces one hundred and sixty acres of finely improved land, which is devoted to general farming and stock-raising. He raises draft horses and hogs for the market and in this work is meeting with success, while his fields annually yield rich harvests. He has built to and remodeled the old home, which was erected forty years ago, and it is now one of the most modern structures to be found in College township.

Mr. Kriz was married in 1893 to Miss Rose Cerveney, a daughter of Joseph and Katherine Cerveney, pioneer settlers and well known farming people of Linn county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Kriz have been born four children: Tillie, now seventeen years of age; Julia, who is sixteen years old; Ludomir, whose birth occurred August 12, 1897; and Frank, who was born on the 8th of July, 1902.

Mr. Kriz is independent in politics, supporting the men whom he deems best fitted for public office, regardless of party affiliation. A public-spirited citizen, he has been called by his fellow townsmen to fill some offices, having served as constable for one term, while for two terms he was school director. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Reformed Evangelical church. Although born across the water, practically his entire life has been passed in Linn county, so that he is deeply interested in its development and progress and has done not a little to further the progress of this section of Iowa, where he is now classed with the representative farmers.

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### ELMER E. YOUNG

Elmer E. Young, now carrying on business in Palo as a dealer in automobiles, was born in Canton township, Benton county, Iowa, October 12, 1860, and is a son of Thomas and Charlotte A. (Hutchins) Young, of whom extended mention is made in the sketch of Leslie B. Young on another page of this volume. He was reared to agricultural pursuits on the home farm and acquired a good practical education in the district schools of the neighborhood. At the age of twenty years he began his business career as a farmer and continued to engage in agricultural pursuits for sometime. At first he operated a portion of his father's land, but in the early '90s acquired a farm of his own in Clinton township, Linn county, on which he located and to the improvement and cultivation of which he devoted his entire time and attention until the fall of 1909, when he turned over the management of the place to his sons, Elmer G. and George J., and removed to Palo. There he built a garage and has since engaged in the automobile business in which he is now meeting with excellent success. He is a wide-awake, energetic business man and in his new undertaking has built up a large trade which is proving very profitable.

Mr. Young was married on March 9, 1880, the lady of his choice being Miss Emma B. Jones, of Shellsburg, Iowa. They became the parents of five children, namely: Thomas C., who is now engaged in farming in Clinton township, this county; Dessie A., the wife of Everett Owens of Canton township, Benton county;





Elmer G., who married Miss Lizzie Farrell, of Linn county and is now operating the home farm in Clinton township, Linn county; George J., who married Miss Florence Stark and is also on the home farm with his brother; and John Le Roy, who is with his father in the automobile business.

Mr. Young is a staunch supporter of the democratic party and its principles but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, preferring to devote his entire time to his business interests. Throughout life he has made his home in this section of the state and has become widely and favorably known, those who know him best being among his staunchest friends.

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### WILLIAM L. WELLER

Many tangible evidences can be cited of the public spirit of William L. Weller, whose labors on the whole were an element in material upbuilding and progress here. The steps in the orderly progression which marked his life work are easily discernible, and the story of his life is the story of honest integrity and thrift. Canada claimed him as one of her native sons, his birth having occurred in Peterborough, Ontario, September 5, 1846. His parents were Lorenzo R. and Corintha D. (Bettes) Weller, whose family numbered eight children.

The boyhood and youth of William L. Weller were passed in Coburg, Canada, and he was indebted to the public school system of that place for the educational opportunities he enjoyed. Believing that business advantages were more quickly secured across the border, he went to Oswego, New York, when seventeen years of age and there spent two years as an employe in a drug store, during which time he gained a thorough knowledge of the business which he had determined to make his life work.

A review of trade conditions existing in different parts of the country led him to the resolution to seek a home in the middle west, and from Buffalo he sailed around the Great Lakes to Chicago, thence coming to Iowa, visiting every town between Fulton and Cedar Rapids in search of a favorable location for a drug store. He had not a friend in this city when he arrived in March, 1866, and, utterly unknown, he began business in a small room, twelve by twenty-four feet, on First avenue, opening his doors on the 6th of March, 1866. Patronage soon came to him and was continued, for those who gave him their trade recognized his enterprise and his honesty in all dealings. Three years later he sought a new location, which he occupied for fifteen years and then erected the Weller block at the corner of Third avenue and Third street — a three-story brick structure forty by ninety feet. This was at the time the largest business block in this city. To its construction Mr. Weller gave his personal supervision and from the first occupied the main floor as a drug store. For forty-four years, or until his death January 15, 1902, he was numbered among the druggists of Cedar Rapids and throughout this period maintained a prominent place among the leading merchants of the city, developing his business to keep pace with the growth of the city and at all times maintaining the same honorable policy upon which he established his enterprise many years ago. For a long period he held membership with the State Pharmaceutical Association. It was not alone in the line of the drug business that he put forth effective effort. He was widely known for his operations in the real-estate field and his holdings included much valuable business and residence property. He also laid out two additions on the west side of the city, known as Weller's first and second additions, and both of these brought him substantial and gratifying financial returns. He was also the owner of considerable farm land and his judgment in realty values was notably safe and reliable.





In his political views Mr. Weller was a republican, always giving his aid to the party. He became one of the charter members and organizers of the Occidental Club and was always popular in that organization and among the business men of the city, his personal characteristics and social qualities being pronounced, so that he was an acceptable companion in any society in which intelligence is a necessary attribute to agreeableness.

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#### DR. SOLON M. LANGWORTHY

Well equipped for the life work he has undertaken, Dr. Solon M. Langworthy has won substantial success in the active practice of his profession. A native of Iowa, he was born in Dubuque on the 23d of March, 1868. The Langworthy family is of English origin. The first American ancestor came from England in 1682 and settled at Newport, Rhode Island. He married Rachel, a daughter of Samuel and Lucy (Cooper) Hubbard, November 3, 1688. In a direct line of descent was his youngest son, James Langworthy, who married and became the father of five children, of whom the eldest, also named James, was born April 11, 1711. He and his wife Sarah became the parents of nine children, their second son being James Langworthy, who was born July 2, 1752, and was married April 13, 1775, to Anna Dean at Smithfield, Rhode Island. He served as a member of a Vermont regiment in the Revolutionary war. In February, 1776, he removed with his family to Windsor, Vermont, where he died June 15, 1800. It was at Windsor that his eldest son, Stephen, was born November 4, 1777, and on the 10th of November, 1798, he married Betsey Massey. Their children were twelve in number. Dr. Stephen Langworthy was a graduate of Yale University and practiced for a time in New York and in 1818 removed westward, settling in Edwardsville, Illinois, where his wife died in 1820. Soon afterward he removed to a farm near Jacksonville, Illinois. Later he practiced his profession for a time in St. Louis, where he married again and in 1834 came to Dubuque, Iowa, where his sons had engaged in mining ventures. He acted as presiding officer of the day in the first Fourth of July celebration held in Dubuque in 1836. He was a surgeon of the war of 1812.

Solon Massey Langworthy, a son of Dr. Stephen Langworthy and the father of Dr. Langworthy of this review, was born January 29, 1814, at Watertown, New York, and with his parents removed to Jacksonville, Illinois. He became a pioneer of Dubuque, Iowa, locating there in 1833. During his early residence in Dubuque he was interested in mining but later engaged in business there as a general merchant and banker under the firm style of Langworthy Brothers. In his later years he was engaged in the lumber business and was still actively connected with that enterprise when called to his final rest in 1886. In early manhood he married Miss Julia Patterson of Edwardsville, Illinois, who came up the Mississippi river on the same boat on which he traveled, the San Juan, at the time the first payment was made to the Indians after the Black Hawk war. On the present site of Davenport there were gathered three thousand Indians in full regalia, awaiting this payment. Mrs. Langworthy died in April, 1907.

Dr. Langworthy began his education in the public schools of Dubuque and later attended Bayless Business College, after which he accepted a position in the office of R. G. Dun & Company at that city. From office boy he rose to the position of city reporter, serving as such for two years. He was then transferred to the Pacific coast department of the same company and opened their office at Tacoma, Washington, in 1888. Two years later he embarked in the retail shoe business at that place under the firm name of Watson & Langworthy. But it was not long before he bought out his partner and continued in business alone until



1893. On disposing of his interests in the west at that time, he returned to Dubuque and for about seven years was employed as traveling salesman for a Cincinnati shoe concern, but during the last few years he spent upon the road he made up his mind to take up the line of work which he now follows. For a time he traveled only twenty weeks during the year, devoting the remainder of the time to study in various schools relative to the drugless treatment of disease and in 1901 received his diploma from the American College of Manual Therapeutics of Kansas City, Missouri. During the same year he also finished a post-graduate course in the system known as chiropractic and opened an office in Cedar Rapids in July, 1901. He is the inventor of mechanical apparatus of note, to be used in his practice, and some of his inventions are now used in the gymnasium at Yale and the Sanitarium at Battle Creek, Michigan. He has also shipped a number of these devices to Bergen, Norway, and to other foreign countries. Dr. Langworthy inherits his inventive genius from his father, who invented and made the first horse hay rake while a youth employed on a farm. The Doctor has met with remarkable success in his chosen calling and is today numbered among Cedar Rapids' prosperous and honored citizens.

On the 9th of June, 1890, Dr. Langworthy was married to Miss Ora Mitchell of Dubuque, a daughter of Charles W. Mitchell, who was secretary and treasurer of the Norwegian Plow Company. They now have three children: Solon Mitchell, who is nineteen years of age and is attending Coe College with the intention of following his father's profession; Lois, who is seventeen years of age and is a student in the high school; and Ruth, aged seven years.

The family are prominent members of the Congregational church and Dr. Langworthy is also identified with the Country Club. In his political views he is an ardent republican, is a great lover of music and particularly admires grand opera. He is a popular, genial gentleman who makes many friends and wherever known is held in high regard.

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### WILLIAM B. KNICKERBOCKER

William B. Knickerbocker is now living retired in Cedar Rapids and his rest is well earned and well merited. For many years he was closely associated with agricultural and horticultural interests, and his energy and diligence brought to him the competence that now enables him to enjoy the comforts of life. He was born near Canandaigua, New York, on the 12th of December, 1822, and is therefore in the eighty-eighth year of his age—one of the revered and venerable patriarchs of the community. His parents were John and Theodosia (Bodman) Knickerbocker. In their family were three children but William B. Knickerbocker is the only one now living. On leaving the Empire state the family removed to Sandusky county, Ohio, where the mother died, and the father afterward continued on his westward way to Linn county, Iowa, settling in Monroe township and later removing to Fairfax township, where his death occurred in 1865.

William B. Knickerbocker spent his youthful days in his parents' home and received such educational advantages as the public schools of that day afforded. He was early trained to habits of industry, economy and perseverance, and learned as the years passed to make the best of his opportunities. In the fall of 1854 he came to Linn county, where he invested in one hundred and twenty acres of land in Monroe township, and later bought a farm of two hundred and twenty acres in Fairfax township, there carrying on farming for several years. He afterward confined his attention to horticultural pursuits, removing to Kenwood, where he purchased a fruit farm of twelve acres, living thereon for seventeen years. He became recognized as one of the leading horticulturists of the community and





such was his ability that his opinions came to be recognized as authority upon the subjects of fruit culture in this part of the state. At length he disposed of his twelve-acre place and purchased a fine residence on First street and A avenue in Kenwood Park, where he is now living retired.

Mr. Knickerbocker was married in Seneca county, Ohio, in 1849 to Miss Sarah Hanford, who was born in Seneca county. They traveled life's journey happily together until the 26th of August, 1867, when they were separated by the death of the wife. She left three children. Laura, the eldest, is now the widow of James Gibson, by whom she had six children: May, the wife of H. Jenkins, of Council Bluffs; O. W., living in Oklahoma; Louise, the wife of S. Walker, of Nebraska; and three sons who are deceased. E. H. Knickerbocker, the second of the family, is living in this county. Ida is the wife of R. B. Brown, of North Dakota. One son, J. W., has also passed away. On the 22d of January, 1868, Mr. Knickerbocker was again married, his second union being with Miss Augusta Gibson, a native of Pennsylvania, who died September 1, 1876. Unto this marriage have been born four children: Etta, the wife of Walter A. Ure, now living in Denver, Colorado; Bertha, the wife of H. Porter, of California; Burton, of Chicago; and Mark, a traveling salesman living in Cedar Rapids.

Mr. Knickerbocker is a member of the Congregational church and his well spent life has won him the high regard and confidence of all who know him. He has served as justice of the peace and as trustee, discharging his public duties with promptness and fidelity. His life has ever been characterized by a spirit of progress and improvement, which has been manifest in his business affairs and in all of his relations to the public. He has now reached a far stage on life's journey and his example is in many respects well worthy of emulation, for he has endeavored to live peaceably with all men, guiding his life by the principles of Christian manhood, so that his name is honored wherever he is known.

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#### WEBB C. WRIGHT

Prominent in public affairs, Webb C. Wright is now most capably and satisfactorily serving as postmaster of Palo and also as mayor of the city. He is one of Iowa's native sons, his birth having occurred in Fort Dodge, on the 1st of March, 1870. His parents, Luman F. and Emma (McVay) Wright, were natives of St. Lawrence county, New York, and Ohio respectively. Soon after the Civil war Luman F. Wright came to Iowa and in Fayette township, this county, was married in 1869 to Miss Emma McVay who had accompanied her parents on their removal to this locality during her girlhood. Soon after their marriage they located in Fort Dodge where Mr. Wright worked at the carpenter's trade for some time, but later turned his attention to farming. After a residence of nine years in Fort Dodge he returned to Fayette township, this county, and was identified with its agricultural interests for several years but is now living retired and makes his home in Vinton, Iowa.

Under the parental roof Webb C. Wright spent the days of his boyhood and youth and was given good educational advantages, attending the public schools and later Tilford Academy at Vinton, after which he pursued a commercial course at the Cedar Rapids Business College. At the age of twenty years he began teaching and continued to follow that profession for seven terms, mainly during the winter months, while throughout the summer season he devoted his time and energies to farming. In 1894 he became identified with mercantile interests in Palo and continued to engage in that business until 1901 when he removed to Center Point and there conducted a store for two years. In 1896 Mr. Wright was appointed postmaster of Palo and served in that capacity until his removal





to Center Point in 1901. On his return to Palo he was again appointed to this office and has since discharged its duties with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. He also writes insurance and deals in real estate to some extent, being the owner of two small farms in Fayette township.

On the 29th of June, 1898, Mr. Wright was united in marriage to Miss Dorothy Rehder of Wheatland, Clinton county, Iowa, who was also a successful school teacher and taught for eleven terms prior to her marriage. They have become the parents of four children: Vehlma, Jessie, Eugene R. and Nellie M.

Since attaining his majority Mr. Wright has always affiliated with the republican party and has taken a very active and influential part in public affairs. His fellow citizens, recognizing his ability, elected him mayor on the incorporation of the town and he has since filled that office in a most creditable manner. He also served as justice of the peace for six years and has always been found true to every trust reposed in him, whether of a public or private nature. Socially he is a member of Center Point Lodge, No. 185, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and he stands high in business, social and political circles.

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### J. W. MACDANEL

J. W. MacDanel is the president and manager of the Clark-MacDanel Company, an important industrial concern of Cedar Rapids which is engaged in the manufacture of workmen's clothing. His birth occurred near La Crosse, Wisconsin, on the 24th of August, 1864, his parents being J. P. and Catherine (Hudelson) MacDanel, who are natives of Ohio and Indiana respectively. They were married in Illinois, to which state their respective parents had removed. J. P. MacDanel, the father of our subject, followed farming in Henderson county, Illinois, for one year and subsequently was engaged in general agricultural pursuits near La Crosse, Wisconsin, for a similar period. He then took up his abode at Piper City, Ford county, Illinois, where he was engaged in the hardware business for a time but later again turned his attention to farming interests. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, called him to various positions of public trust and for about a quarter of a century he capably discharged the duties devolving upon him as township clerk. He also represented his township in other positions for many years and over the record of his official career there falls no shadow of doubt or suspicion of evil. For the past fifteen years he and his wife have made their home in Cedar Rapids, where they are well known and highly esteemed as people of genuine personal worth and upright, honorable lives.

J. W. MacDanel was reared under the parental roof and obtained his education in the public schools. His father was in only moderate financial circumstances and he therefore began providing for his own support at an early age, working as a chore boy and as a farm hand for neighboring agriculturalists in Ford county until he had attained his seventeenth year. At that time he came west to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, here securing employment as a clerk in the dry goods store of H. C. Gillette. About a year and a half later Mr. Gillette disposed of his mercantile interests and Mr. MacDanel then entered the service of Foot & Whitney, who were engaged in the same line of business and with whom he remained until 1888. In that year he entered the employ of Liddle & Carter, jobbers of men's furnishings and manufacturers of workmen's clothing, gradually becoming familiar with the business in principle and detail. He remained an employee of the house until 1900, when the reorganization of the business was effected and the style of the concern was changed to Clark-MacDanel Company, Mr. MacDanel becoming president and general manager of the new firm. In 1903 they erected a modern building with a floor space of about twenty thousand square feet and supplied



with all necessary equipments for the successful conduct of a manufacturing enterprise. Employment is furnished to some seventy-five persons and the trade of the house extends over a wide area. The Clark-MacDanel Company is one of Cedar Rapids' important industrial concerns and the gentleman who is at its head has gained a prominent and enviable position in business circles here.

In 1888 Mr. MacDanel was united in marriage to Miss Philopena Seitz, of Cedar Rapids, a daughter of Phillip and Caroline (Kruger) Seitz, who were among the early settlers of this place and are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. MacDanel are the parents of two children, namely: Mildred Bernice, who completed the high school course in Cedar Rapids with the class of 1908 and is now pursuing a special course in Coe College; and Ellen Louise, a high school student.

In his political views Mr. MacDanel is a republican but the honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him. He belongs to the Cedar Rapids Commercial Club and has been a member of the board of directors of the Young Men's Christian Association for about twenty years. Both he and his wife are devoted members of the First United Presbyterian church, in the work of which they are actively and helpfully interested, Mr. MacDanel having served as elder for twenty-five years. He is a man of many friends here and has made for himself a creditable place in industrial circles, his capability and business efficiency winning him both recognition and prosperity.

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### JOHN K. DANIELS

John K. Daniels, who is for the fourth year capably filling the office of assessor of Bertram township and also serving as justice of the peace, is numbered among the public-spirited citizens and successful farmers of Linn county. He is a native of the county, born April 20, 1859, a son of J. J. and Martha K. (Kinley) Daniels, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Indiana. In 1844 the father made a trip to Linn county to look over the country and remained here one year. He then returned to the Buckeye state but in 1846 came again to Linn county, bringing with him his family. This time he entered land and erected a log cabin, which is still standing on that portion of the farm now owned by our subject. He developed and improved his farm, which he cultivated for a few years, but in 1865 he was elected on the republican ticket as recorder of Linn county, which necessitated his removal to Marion. His fidelity and capability is attested by his reelections, for he was continued in office four terms. On the expiration of his last term he returned to the farm and once more took up the pursuits of farm life, making his home thereon throughout his remaining years. He died December 21, 1908, when he had reached the extreme old age of eighty-one years. The mother departed this life many years prior to his death, her demise occurring in 1895. Their family numbered fourteen children, of whom six are still living.

J. K. Daniels was given good educational advantages, completing the high-school course. He was reared to the occupation of farming and continued on the home farm until he was twenty-two years of age, in the meantime engaging in teaching for one term. He then went to California, remaining on the Pacific coast for fifteen years. In 1896 he returned to Linn county and for six years operated rented land. He then took up his abode on forty acres of land which he purchased from his father but after seven years he disposed of that land and purchased a portion of the old homestead property, located on section 28, Bertram township, and this has been his home to the present time. His farm embraces forty acres, all of which is under cultivation and is improved with good buildings.

Mr. Daniels has been twice married. His first union was with Miss May C. Daniels, their marriage being celebrated in 1881. She was a native of Belle



Plaine, Iowa, and by her marriage became the mother of one son, Charles E., who is now in Colorado. In 1898 Mr. Daniels married Martha E. Vredenburg, who was born in Linn county. There are three children by the second marriage: Bessie L., John W. and Cecil R.

In his political belief Mr. Daniels has followed in his father's footsteps, voting the republican ticket, and he has served four years as assessor of Bertram township, while for the past two years he has filled the office of justice of the peace. His entire political service has been in the interest of the people and his continuance in office is the best evidence of this statement.

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### M. M. ONDLER

M. M. Ondler is filling the position of township trustee of Spring Grove township and is moreover numbered among the leading and representative farmers of the district. He was born in Buchanan county, Iowa, on the 28th of April, 1867, and is a son of Phillip and Sarah (Sherritts) Ondler, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Pennsylvania. He spent the days of his boyhood and youth quietly, his time being divided between the work of the fields, the duties of the schoolroom and the pleasures of the playground. He acquired a good English education and was trained in the labors of the farm. On reaching manhood he engaged in breeding horses and was identified with that business for seven or eight years. He has displayed energy and determination in everything that he has undertaken and seldom fails to win success. He is now a director of the Farmers Telephone Company and for some years was its treasurer. His attention however, is chiefly given to his farming interests and he now owns one hundred and forty-two acres of rich and arable land in Spring Grove township. Of this he owned ninety-two acres at the time of his marriage. In the development and improvement of the property he displays sound judgment and his perseverance has brought to him success that he well merits.

On the 20th of February, 1894, Mr. Ondler was united in marriage to Miss Essie May Metcalf, of Spring Grove township, and he took his bride to the farm which he owned and which has since been their home, although its boundaries have been extended by additional purchase. Three children have been born unto them, namely: Clarence E., Estelle D. and Alvin P.

Mr. Ondler votes with the republican party, which he has supported since his majority. He is now serving his second term as a member of the board of township trustees and is also president of the school board. While he closely applies himself to the successful conduct of his business interests, he also recognizes and meets the duties and obligations of citizenship and supports all the various measures and movements which he deems of value to the community.

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### EDWARD E. HACH

Edward E. Hach is known in financial circles as a director of the Iowa State Savings Bank of Cedar Rapids and in manufacturing lines as the manager of The Peter Hach Bottling House. He was born February 19, 1885, on the corner on which he is now conducting business, his parents being Peter and Frances (Skerik) Hach, natives of Tama and Linn counties, Iowa, respectively. It is thus indicated that the families have been represented in this state from pioneer times. The father was reared on the homestead farm in Tama county and in 1882, when a young man, came to this city, where he entered the employ of his brother-in-





law, Joseph Skerik, of whom he later became a partner in the agricultural implement business. In 1894, after the mullet law came into effect, he engaged in the saloon business and in 1896 turned his attention to the bottling business, in which connection he has built up one of the important industries of Cedar Rapids. He has now turned over the management of the enterprise, however, to his son and is practically living retired in the enjoyment of well earned rest on a small farm on Twenty-third avenue West.

Edward E. Hach was reared under the parental roof and after mastering the branches taught in the public schools of this city continued his education in the Cedar Rapids Business College. On attaining his majority he became associated with his father in business in the capacity of bookkeeper and has since been identified with The Peter Hach Bottling House, of which he is now manager. To this position he was called soon after his marriage and has served in that capacity continuously since, carefully controlling the interests of the business, which is now thoroughly systematized, so that substantial results are secured without the waste of time or labor. Mr. Hach was also active in the organization of the Iowa State Savings Bank and two years later was chosen a member of its board of directors, in which capacity he has since served.

It was in 1906 that Mr. Hach was united in marriage to Miss Emma Uleh, of Solon, Iowa. He belongs to Prokap Velky, C. S. P. S.; Ziskuvdub, Z. C. B. J.; and to the Foresters of America. He is yet a young man and undoubtedly further success awaits him in the future, for unabating energy and industry that never flags are numbered among his strong characteristics.

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#### WILLIAM H. CLEARY

William H. Cleary, assistant chief of police of Cedar Rapids, and long connected with the public service of this city, was born in New York city on the 26th of May, 1858. His parents, Martin and Catherine (Guiry) Cleary, were natives of Ireland, the mother having been born in the city of Limerick. They came to the United States in early manhood and womanhood and took up their abode in Albany, New York, where they were married. Subsequently they removed west to Wisconsin where Mr. Cleary followed railroading for a short time, but afterwards turned his attention to farming and engaged in tilling the soil until after the outbreak of the Civil war. He served throughout the entire period of hostilities, enlisting from Madison, Wisconsin, in Company H, Fourth Wisconsin Cavalry. He was injured in the battle of Fort Hudson, his horse being shot and rolled over on him, Mr. Cleary sustaining serious injuries in his back. Following the close of the war he returned to Wisconsin and settled on a tract of land, after which he carried on general farming until his retirement from active business life. He then removed to the village of Elkhorn, Wisconsin, where he enjoyed a well earned rest until his death, which occurred March 15, 1904. His wife died in 1893.

William H. Cleary was reared on the home farm, working in the fields through the summer months and attending the public schools in the winter seasons. On reaching his twenty-second year he went to Chicago and secured employment in the plant of the Cramer Brothers Manufacturing Company, serving an apprenticeship as a welder on furnace work. After completing his apprenticeship he was compelled to quit the work on account of ill health, and hoping that the change might prove beneficial he came west to Cedar Rapids in the summer of 1884 and secured a position in the Sinclair Packing House, where he was employed until March, 1885. On the 14th of March of that year he was appointed a member of the city police force and served on the force for nine years



and three months. He was capable, faithful and trustworthy in the performance of his duties, and was promoted to the rank of captain and assistant chief, serving in the latter capacity under two administrations for four years of the period of nine years in which he was connected with the police force. Following his retirement he entered the mayor's office where he spent one year as representative in the serving of claims and other kindred duties. He then found employment in the Sinclair Packing House where he remained for six years and later, for about a year, represented the Swift Packing House Company, of St. Louis Missouri, as a traveling salesman. In 1902 he was again appointed a member of the police force as a patrolman, and later was made the patrol sergeant. In the spring of 1908, under the commission plan of government he was appointed assistant chief, under Chief Carl, in which capacity he has since served. He has made a study of criminology and has proven an efficient officer in his present business, and an able assistant in the handling of the police affairs of the city.

Mr. Cleary was married in 1891 to Miss Catherine Blakely of Cedar Rapids, and they became the parents of two children, but only one is now living, David Dempster, who is attending the parochial school of the Immaculate Conception church. The parents are members of the Catholic church, and Mr. Cleary holds membership with the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters. He is one of the well known residents of Cedar Rapids, and has been a faithful and competent official, discharging his duties with a sense of conscientious obligation, endeavoring at all times to hold the city to a high standard of law and order.

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#### LEVITT J. SHURTLEFF

Levitt J. Shurtleff, one of Fayette township's prosperous farmers and successful citizens, has spent his entire life in this county, for he was born in that township on the 8th of March, 1861, a son of Jerome and Mary (Dumbauld) Shurtleff. His father was a native of Vermont and was a young man on coming west about 1851. Before taking up his residence in Iowa he drove a stage coach running from Galena, Illinois, to a spur of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad connecting with Chicago. It was in Iowa City, Johnson county, this state, that he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Dumbauld, a native of Perry county, Ohio, who came with her parents to this state during her girlhood. In early years he drove a stage from Anamosa to Iowa City, but after his marriage entered one hundred and sixty acres of farming land in Fayette township and forty-five acres of timber land. He then located upon this property and to its development and improvement devoted his time and attention until he retired from active life and is now living retired in Shellsburg, Iowa. He is a republican in politics and was called upon to fill various township offices during his residence in Fayette township, including that of township trustee. Fraternally he is a Mason and for more than thirty years served as master of Shellsburg lodge.

During his boyhood Levitt J. Shurtleff attended the common schools and while assisting his father in the work of the home farm gained an excellent knowledge of all the duties that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. At the age of twenty-one years he began life for himself as a farmer and for two years operated the home farm on shares. He subsequently rented other property, which he farmed for three years, and after his marriage removed to one of his father's farms, which he carried on for four years. In 1889 he bought eighty acres of his present farm in Fayette township, on which he located in February, 1890, and in connection with its operation continued to carry on his father's farm for several years. In the meantime he added to his property as his financial resources increased and he



found opportunity until he is now the owner of a valuable tract of two hundred and thirty-seven acres. He has a well improved place and his fields are under a high state of cultivation.

On the 25th of February, 1886, Mr. Shurtleff married Miss Viola Hall, of Fayette township. Her father, James A. Hall, was born in Pennsylvania and was married in New York state in 1854 to Miss Mary Webber, who at that time was only seventeen years of age, while he was nineteen years old. Not long afterward they came to Iowa and settled in Fayette township, Linn county. During the Civil war Mr. Hall entered the service as a member of Company 1, Twentieth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, while his wife went to the front as a nurse. In later years both drew pensions in recognition of their services and they died in Palo, this county, in 1905 within seventeen hours of each other. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Shurtleff have been born four children: Mary Frances, now the wife of Hezron Gillis, of Fayette township; Victoria Viola; Helen Marjorie; and Alberta Irene.

Politically Mr. Shurtleff is identified with the republican party and has been honored with several official positions of trust and responsibility. He has served as road supervisor and as a member of the school board and in November, 1908, was elected township trustee. He exerts a wide felt influence in local politics and his fidelity to every trust reposed in him has gained him a large circle of warm friends. He is an automobile enthusiast and owns a Reo machine, from which he derives much pleasure.

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#### HARRY ALEXANDER LINDSAY, M. D.

Dr. Harry Alexander Lindsay, who is now successfully engaged in practice as a physician and surgeon in Walker, Iowa, was born in Steubenville, Jefferson county, Ohio, on the 19th of April, 1872, his parents being Alexander and Mary (McKee) Lindsay, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, but were married in the Buckeye state, whither they had removed with their respective parents in early life. The father, who was a gunsmith by trade, was engaged in that line of business in Steubenville at the time of his death, which occurred in 1875, when he was quite young. The mother died about the same time and the Doctor was thus left an orphan at the tender age of three years. He then made his home with his paternal grandmother, Mrs. Sarah Jane Lindsay, by whom he was reared to manhood.

At the age of twenty years Dr. Lindsay secured a position in a drug store connected with the Independence State Hospital at Independence, Iowa, where for ten years he was the officiating pharmacist. In 1902 he entered the medical department of the State University of Iowa at Iowa City, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1906. Having received his degree, he first located at Stanley, Iowa, where he was engaged in practice for one year, and then returned to Independence, being made assistant physician at the state hospital and serving in that capacity for three years. In October, 1909, he came to Walker and during his short residence here has already built up a good practice, which is constantly increasing. He is also a partner in the H. A. Brink Drug Company of this city and as a druggist as well as a physician he has met with well deserved success.

In 1896, Dr. Lindsay was united in marriage to Miss Carlotta E. Robertson of Independence, Iowa. He recently purchased one of the finest homes in Walker, located on South Greene street, where they now reside. His fraternal brethren recognize his ability and he is today a prominent member of the Linn County Medical Society, the Buchanan County Medical Society, the Iowa State





Medical Society and the American Medical Association. Outside of his profession he is identified with Rob Morris Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and is also connected with the Order of the Eastern Star. His skill as a physician and surgeon has been demonstrated in many important cases and he will undoubtedly make for himself a name and reputation in his chosen calling.

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### GEORGE ALFRED MERRILL

Through intermediate positions George Alfred Merrill has risen in the railway service until he is now division superintendent of the Cedar Rapids division of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad, with headquarters at Cedar Rapids. He was born in Carthage, Illinois, November 28, 1867, and is a son of Steven W. Merrill, a native of New Hampshire, who in early life was engaged in railroading under his brother, then superintendent of transportation of what was known as the Rutland Railroad but is now a part of the Grand Trunk system. S. W. Merrill served the railroad in various important capacities until 1851, when he removed westward to Burlington, Iowa, and became general freight and passenger agent with the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company, the only railroad at that time running west of Burlington and being built as far as Agency City, Iowa. He remained in the service of that road until the outbreak of the Civil war, when his patriotic nature was aroused and he put aside all business and personal considerations in order to aid in the preservation of the Union. Accordingly he enlisted in the Fifty-second Iowa regiment, which became a part of what was known as Crocker's brigade. He made a most creditable military record, advancing from the position of sergeant until he was ranking captain, his promotion coming to him in recognition of meritorious service and various acts of bravery. He remained in the south until the close of the war and afterward settled in Warsaw, Illinois, where he filled the position of county clerk of Hancock county. He also acted in that capacity after the removal of the county seat from Warsaw to Carthage. He is now living retired in Carthage at the age of eighty-five years, honored and respected by all who know him. His political allegiance has ever been given to the republican party since it was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery.

Steven W. Merrill married Miss Loretta W. Bliss, of Bradford, Vermont, who died in 1903 aged sixty-seven years, and unto them were born seven children, of whom five are now living: Edmund Bliss, who is filling the position of claim agent for the Colorado Southern Railroad Company and makes his home in Denver; Charles Carroll, general agent for the New York Central Railroad Company at Kansas City, Missouri; Carrie Dean, who is living with her father in Carthage, Illinois, engaged as a stenographer and bookkeeper for a number of years in the banking house of Berry & Berry Company at that place; Graham Foote, a machinist who is now foreman of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad shops at Parsons, Kansas; and George A. Those deceased are Iowa Bliss and Mary Graham, both dying in infancy.

George Alfred Merrill was educated in the public schools of Carthage, Illinois, and began his railroad service in the capacity of a messenger for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad at Burlington, Iowa, which position he held from November, 1881, to July, 1882, after which he became night operator at that place, serving as such until the following November. He then accepted employment with the old Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railroad, now a part of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific, as night operator at What Cheer, Iowa, remaining there in various capacities until the fall of 1886, when he returned to Cedar Rapids as relief agent on the division and operator in the dispatcher's



office. He was later advanced to train dispatcher, serving in that capacity from November, 1887, to 1896. He was next employed as chief dispatcher until 1899, when he was made trainmaster at Cedar Rapids, filling that position until 1903. During that year he was promoted to division superintendent at Estherville, Iowa, where he remained for a year, and from 1904 to 1905 held a similar position at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. From 1905 to 1907 he was division superintendent at Little Rock, Arkansas, and in the latter year accepted his present position of division superintendent at Cedar Rapids. His advancement has come to him through faithfulness, marked ability and close attention to all the details which are a part of railway management and control.

Most pleasantly and happily situated in his home life, Mr. Merrill was united in marriage to Miss Mary J. Dwyer, who was born in Donnard, Ireland, but came to the United States as a child of twelve years. They have no children of their own but have always manifested a keen and helpful interest in the young, taking great pleasure in assisting a boy or a girl to progress along educational or moral lines.

Fraternally Mr. Merrill is a thirty-second degree Mason, holding membership in Iowa Consistory, No. 2, A. A. S. R. He is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, belonging to lodge No. 251, and is regent of George Greene Council, No. 556, Royal Arcanum, of Cedar Rapids.

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#### WILLIAM C. BYERS

Thirty-six years' service in connection with the operative department of the Rock Island Railroad system in the capacity of engineer is indicative of both the capability and fidelity of William C. Byers of Cedar Rapids. He was born in Greencastle, Pennsylvania, March 9, 1844. His father, Martin Byers, was a native of Hamburg, Germany, whence he crossed the Atlantic to America, settling in Greencastle, Pennsylvania, where he lived until 1865, when he came to Linn county, Iowa, here remaining until his death. He married Margaret Kline, who now lies buried by the side of her husband in Crab Apple cemetery.

William C. Byers acquired a common school education in Greencastle, Pennsylvania, and at the age of seventeen years, prompted by a spirit of patriotism, responded to the country's call for troops, enlisting at Harrisburg on the 20th of April, 1861. Hardly had the smoke from Fort Sumter's guns cleared away when he joined the army, being one of the seventy-five thousand included within President Lincoln's first call. He was with the Second Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry and following the expiration of his first term of three months, he reinlisted in the One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Pennsylvania Regulars. The first battle in which he took part occurred at Falling Waters, Virginia, where the rebels were routed as they were again at Martinsburg, Virginia, and at Harper's Ferry. Mr. Byers, in addition to these engagements, took part in the second battle of Bull Run, the battles of Antietam, White Plains and Snicker's Gap in the mountains of Virginia and later in the battles of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. For six weeks previous to the last named he was detailed for sharp-shooter's practice and during the engagement at Chancellorsville did very effective work as a sharp-shooter, using sixty-five rounds of ammunition to good effect. He is still in possession of the old army rifle that he used during the war and he also has other valuable and interesting relics of the early days. He lost two brothers during the war, Charles being killed at the battle of the Wilderness, while George met his death in the battle of Fredericksburg. William C. Byers, however, was never wounded and following the expiration of his term of enlistment, soon after the battle of Chancellorsville, he returned to Greencastle.



The Civil war was still in progress when on the 8th of October, 1863, at Greencastle, Mr. Byers was united in marriage to Miss Lueretia Conrad. They became the parents of four children. Shannon, the eldest son, was killed near Tipton, Iowa, while serving as an engineer on the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railroad, the accident being caused by a cow upon the track. Earl, the second son, is now a professor of music in Cedar Rapids. Edward is employed by the Rock Island Railroad Company as engine dispatcher. Carl, the youngest, is also a railroad man.

Thus three of the sons have followed in the footsteps of their father who for many years has been identified with the railroad service. He went upon the road in 1871, acting as fireman for three years on the Dubuque & Southwestern Railroad. In 1876 he became an engineer on the Rock Island Railroad and for thirty-six years has been at the throttle, carefully controlling the great iron monster, fully conscious of the responsibility that devolves upon him as the custodian of human life.

In his political views Mr. Byers is an earnest republican and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. For eight years he was a member of the city council and is at present one of the civil service commissioners of Cedar Rapids. Fraternally he is connected with Crescent Lodge, No. 25, A. F. & A. M., still retains his membership in the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, and is also a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. He likewise belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen. For thirty years he has been a Methodist and his life is in harmony therewith, thereby winning for him the respect and goodwill of all with whom he comes in contact.

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#### JOSEF BURES

Josef Bures was formerly identified with general agricultural pursuits for a number of years and thereby won the success which now enables him to live retired in the enjoyment of well earned rest. He owned and cultivated land in Putnam township and upon putting aside business cares established his home in the town of Ely, where he is now pleasantly located. His surname indicates his Bohemian lineage. He was born in Bohemia in 1852 and attended school in his native land. He learned to read and write the English language after coming to America, doing the last without receiving instruction. He was a young man of eighteen years when he became a resident of Iowa, at which time he located in Big Grove township, Johnson county. He had come to the new world empty-handed but was imbued with firm purpose to make the most of his opportunities and to progress along business lines. He began to work as a farm hand but eagerly embraced the first opportunity of becoming the owner of property. He had been a resident of Johnson county for only a year when, in 1871, he purchased sixty-five acres of timber land. While it was largely destitute of improvement, he at once began to develop it and is now the owner of two hundred and thirty-five acres of highly improved land in Johnson county. His labors made his tract very productive, for in farming he practiced the rotation of crops and the judicious use of fertilizers, so that he always kept his soil in good condition. He has ever been a hard worker and in all things has been actuated by the spirit of progress and advancement. At length, feeling that his competence was sufficient to justify him in retiring from active life, he put aside business cares and purchased ten acres of land in Ely, upon which he erected a thoroughly modern and attractive home.

In December, 1870, Mr. Bures was united in marriage to Miss Christina Burinaneck, of Johnson county, a daughter of Wesley and Zophia Burinaneck, who





were successful farming people. The children of this marriage were: Anna, now the wife of Wesley Meeta; Julia, who married Joseph Noie; Joseph, who was born December 24, 1878; John, born October 29, 1882; and Frank, born September 29, 1887. The wife and mother passed away on the 24th of April, 1891, and on the 8th of November, 1894. Mr. Bures was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Anna Kremenack, nee Burinanek, a sister of his first wife, at that time a resident of Cedar Rapids. She had three children by her first marriage: Joseph, living in Ely; Anna, the wife of Ed Pisarik, of Putnam township; and Thelia, the wife of Wesley J. Dvorak, of Ely.

Mr. Bures has filled the office of school director and school treasurer, serving in those positions for many years. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend and he has put forth earnest and effective effort to promote public progress along educational lines. His political views are in accord with the principles of the democratic party. He is well known among his countrymen as an upright, honest man, and has many friends in both Johnson and Linn counties. His business record is certainly creditable, for with no capital he started out to make his way in the world, in a land with whose language and customs he was unfamiliar. Gradually he worked his way upward and is today one of the substantial citizens of Ely, his success being evident in his comfortable surroundings and his financial standing.

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#### COLONEL SEYMOUR DAVID CARPENTER, M. D.

Although now a resident of Chicago, Colonel Seymour David Carpenter, M. D., was closely associated with the interests of Iowa for many years. He was one of the first medical practitioners of Cedar Rapids and one of the organizers of the first banking house of the city. He was born in Lancaster, Ohio, in 1826, and comes of a family of Swiss origin, the name of Carpenter being the Anglicized form of the word Zimmerman. Heinrich Zimmerman, the first representative of the family in America, settled in Pennsylvania in 1696. He afterward returned to Switzerland, but in 1706 made permanent location in this country. Arriving in Germantown, Pennsylvania, he purchased a large tract of land in Lancaster county for his colony. Later members of the family were prominent in all the colonial and early wars of the country and representatives of the name in succeeding generations have attained high official positions. Emanuel Carpenter was a colleague of Dr. Benjamin Franklin in the provincial assembly at Philadelphia; Lieutenant Colonel Jacob Carpenter won fame in the Revolutionary war; Emanuel Carpenter of the third generation in 1798 made a trip of exploration up the Ohio river and northward and located on the Hocking river, near the present site of Lancaster, Ohio. In 1802 other members of this branch of the family removed to Ohio and finally named that settlement New Lancaster—the home of the Shermans, General William T. and Senator John T. Sherman.

Colonel Carpenter was the eldest in the family of six children of Gabriel Carpenter, whose name is inseparably interwoven with the history of Cedar Rapids, for he was one of the founders of the city and largely guided its destinies in the early days, infusing into the community a spirit of progress and enterprise which constituted a safe foundation upon which to build its present prosperity. Mr. Gabriel Carpenter, the father of Seymour D., started upon life's journey almost at the opening of the nineteenth century, for his birth occurred in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, on the 11th of September, 1801. He was only a year old when his parents removed from the Keystone state to Ohio to a number of colonists who founded and named the city of Lancaster. There amid pioneer surroundings and environment his youthful days were passed. His education



was acquired under difficulties, for the public-school system was in its infancy and the pioneer community afforded only such educational advantages as could be obtained in the little log schoolhouses on the frontier. His training at farm work, however, was not meagre, for he was early instructed in the work of the fields and taught the best methods of plowing, planting and harvesting. He continued to carry on general agricultural pursuits in Ohio until 1852. He then removed to Cedar Rapids and became the owner of a section of land now embraced within the southern portion of the city. From that time until his death he was closely identified with the upbuilding and improvement of Cedar Rapids and contributed in large measure to its progress by laying out seven additions thereto. His real-estate operations were conducted on an extensive scale, and he had the prescience to discern what the future had in store for this growing western city. His investments, therefore, were judiciously made and in time brought to him splendid financial returns. In business matters his judgment was sound, his discernment keen and his enterprise unfaltering.

Mr. Gabriel Carpenter was married twice, first to Miss Catherine Pearce, who died in Ohio. There were five children of that marriage: Seymour David, the eldest, now a resident of Chicago; E. B., living in Leavenworth, Kansas; Rebecca, who died in 1883 while living with her sister, Mrs. Mary Weare, Sioux City, Iowa; Mary, who passed away in 1910; and Susanna, now the widow of H. B. Stibbs and a resident of Chicago. For his second wife Mr. Gabriel Carpenter chose Mrs. Maria Wylie, nee Clifton, who by a former marriage had two daughters: Anna Wylie, living with her mother in Cedar Rapids; and Harriett, the wife of J. H. Reede, a resident of Chicago. By their second marriage Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel Carpenter had five children, namely: Delia; Frank and John F., who have been called to their final home, and rest in the cemetery at Cedar Rapids; George, who is living in Nashville, Tennessee; and Taylor Carpenter, whose home is in Cedar Rapids.

Coming to this city in pioneer times, Mr. Gabriel Carpenter did effective work for its improvement and his public spirit was manifest in many tangible ways. His business interests were largely of a character that contributed to general improvement as well as to individual success. He was the owner of the land at the corner of First street and Second avenue and upon it erected what was then the finest hotel of the city—a brick structure three stories in height. It was conducted as a model hotel and was one of the notable features of the city but was destroyed by fire in 1876. Afterward he utilized the hotel site for the erection of a fine business block, and also erected in Cedar Rapids a good brick residence, hauling the brick from Muscatine, Iowa, with teams. The house was finished throughout in solid walnut, and the family occupied that attractive frontier home until it was destroyed by fire in 1865 but afterward was rebuilt. Aside from his building operations and real-estate dealings Mr. Gabriel Carpenter became a director in a private bank conducted under the name of Carpenter, Stibbs & Company. He was also for a number of years one of the directors of the First National Bank of Cedar Rapids, became president of the Marshalltown Gas Company, in which he owned a quarter interest, and a stockholder in the Cedar Rapids Water Company. In business affairs he displayed quick discernment and a faculty of separating the important features of any situation or project from its incidental or accidental circumstances. He used his time and opportunities to the best advantage and accomplished results by prompt and direct action while others were pausing to consider the means to the end.

In matters of citizenship Mr. Gabriel Carpenter sought for all that promised substantial advancement and was deeply interested in those projects which are a matter of civic virtue and civic pride. He watched with interest the progress of events that led to the inauguration of the Civil war and although too old to render active service he sent two sons, Seymour D. and E. Brough, who both





served the whole four years, put forth every effort at home to uphold the Union cause and at the first call for volunteers offered a fine town lot to the first enlisting. The prize was taken by Joseph Perigo, who after the war built a good house upon the site. Mr. Gabriel Carpenter ever gave his political allegiance to the republican party, believing that its principles conserved the best elements of good government. He belonged to Crescent Lodge, No. 25, of Masons. In his later years he found interest and recreation in croquet, becoming a skillful player, spending entire afternoons with friends in the enjoyment of the game. His religious faith was indicated by his membership in the Episcopal church, in which he served as vestryman and also as junior warden at the time of his death, which occurred on the 10th of March, 1881. While almost three decades have since passed, his memory is yet cherished by many of the older citizens among whom he was widely known and honored, his sterling traits of character winning him personal regard, while his activity in business and public lines established his reputation as one of the most progressive and public-spirited citizens. Mrs. Maria Carpenter still survives her husband at the very advanced age of ninety years.

Colonel Seymour D. Carpenter was reared in Fairfield county, Ohio, pursuing his early education in a district school built of logs and later attending Granville College at Granville, Ohio, then for two years was also a student at Lancaster Academy. Subsequently he again spent two years at Granville College and for three years studied medicine under Dr. Williams of Granville. He afterward engaged in teaching school for a period in the south but finally returned to Lancaster, where he studied medicine prior to entering the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, from which he received his diploma in 1848. The following year he left home on horseback and on the 14th of June, 1849, arrived in Cedar Rapids, where he formed a partnership for the practice of medicine with Dr. E. L. Mansfield, thus continuing until 1850, when he became the senior partner of the firm of Carpenter & Koontz.

On the 6th of July, 1850, Colonel Seymour D. Carpenter married Miss Sarah Weare, a daughter of John Weare, Sr., of Cedar Rapids, and in 1852 he became one of the organizers of the first banking house in Cedar Rapids in association with Edmund C. Kreider and Henry Lehman and soon afterward, abandoning the profession of medicine, he devoted his time until 1861 to the real-estate and loan business. At the outbreak of the Civil war he was foremost in the organization of the first Iowa regiments and was appointed assistant surgeon of United States volunteers, serving throughout the period of hostilities. He was mustered out July 31, 1865, with the rank of brevet lieutenant Colonel, holding three commissions.

When the war was over Colonel Seymour D. Carpenter returned to Cedar Rapids, where he engaged in contracting on a large scale in the building of railroads and other public works in Iowa and other states, Mexico and Canada. In 1866 he removed to Ottumwa, Iowa, where he became associated with others in the construction of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railway between the Mississippi and Missouri rivers. Later he engaged in the lumber business in Louisiana with John and Elisha Ely as partners but subsequently purchased their interests and formed the Cypress Shingle & Lumber business. In 1885 he was elected president of the Southern Lumber & Shingle Association and removed his family to Louisiana, where unfortunately he was called upon to mourn the death of his wife and only son Ralph Weare. He continued actively in business in Louisiana until June, 1893, when his mills were destroyed by fire and the following year he returned to the north, settling in Chicago.

In May, 1900, while traveling abroad, Colonel Seymour D. Carpenter was married again, his second union being with Mrs. Fanny M. Emerson, an English widow, having one daughter, Ellen E. Emerson. By his first marriage Colonel Carpenter had four children. Katherine, widow of J. Asbury Taylor, resides





in Ottumwa, Iowa. Mary is the wife of Albert G. Harrow, and they have a daughter, Grace, now the wife of J. Rudy Smith, by whom she has one child, Natalie Harrow Smith. Sarah Carpenter is the wife of William D. Elliott, of Ottumwa, Iowa, and they had two sons, William Dalrymple, living, and Albert Weare, deceased. Ralph Weare Carpenter married Grace Harrod and left a daughter, Edith Weare Carpenter, still living at Winnetka, Illinois.

Colonel Seymour D. Carpenter is now eighty-four years of age and is the oldest Carpenter for two hundred years. He is now pleasantly located in Chicago, where he is enjoying a well earned rest. He is a man of optimistic tendencies, always looking on the bright side, and thus sheds around him much of the sunshine of life. His good qualities have made him highly respected and he yet has many friends in Cedar Rapids among the older residents of the city with whom he was associated through business and social relations during the years of his residence here. At the fiftieth anniversary held in this city he made one of the opening speeches. He was one of the first delegates sent by Iowa to a republican convention for the purpose of making a presidential nomination and also attended the convention held in Chicago when President Taft received his nomination. At that time he was invited to occupy a seat on the platform, this honor being given him on account of his being one of the oldest republican delegates to a convention, and a long article and his picture appeared in the Chicago Record Herald.

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#### EDWARD YOCOM

The business interests of Springville have a worthy representative in Edward Yocom, who since 1895 has conducted a general mercantile store in that place. A native of Ohio, he was born in Morgan county, on the 4th of November, 1854, and is a son of Thomas D. and Anna (Bailey) Yocom, who were natives of Belmont county, Ohio. The mother died in 1865 in Morgan county, that state. Two years later the father married again and in 1871 he moved to Springville, Iowa, purchasing a farm in Linn county. He continued his residence here throughout the remainder of his life and passed away on the 17th of January, 1908, at the age of seventy-eight years. He was a consistent member of the Friends church and was a man honored and esteemed wherever known. By his first marriage he had seven children, of whom three are still living, while by his second union there were two children and one still survives.

Reared under the parental roof, Edward Yocom attended the common schools near his boyhood home and assisted his father in the operation of the farm until he attained his majority. He then engaged in farming for himself for six years, but at the end of that time removed to Marshall county, Iowa, and embarked in general merchandising, which he carried on there for some years. In 1895, however, he returned to Linn county and opened a general store in Springville, which he has since conducted with marked success. He carries a large and complete line of goods to meet the demands of his patrons and his reliability and fair dealing have gained him the confidence of all.

On the 9th of April, 1876, Mr. Yocom was united in marriage to Miss L. M. Calvert, who is also a native of Ohio, her parents being John and Mary A. Calvert. Her father died in 1907, but her mother still survives and now makes her home with our subject. In the Calvert family were nine children, of whom seven are still living. Mr. and Mrs. Yocom have four children: Olive L., now the wife of John Worrall, of Springville, by whom she has one daughter, Veda M.; John T., who is married and has a third interest in his father's business; Purley C., who holds a position in a bank in Chicago; and Edward Brooks, who is now attending Cornell College.



Mr. Yocom and his family hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and fraternally he is identified with Springville Camp, No. 3346, M. W. A., in which he has filled all of the chairs. Politically he has always been a staunch republican and has held various local offices, the duties of which he has discharged with promptness and fidelity, having served as township clerk and as a member of the school board and the town board at different times. His record is a creditable one, characterized by those qualities which win him classification with the leading citizens and reliable business men of his community. His life has ever been upright and honorable and he well deserves the confidence in which he is uniformly held.

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### THOMAS B. YUILL

Thomas B. Yuill, who represents one of the honored pioneer families of Clinton township, Linn county, is now living on the homestead, located on section 25. He was born in that township and is a son of James and Anne (Buchanan) Yuill. The father, who was a son of John and Elizabeth (Shirrah) Yuill, was born in Deanstone, Stirlingshire, Scotland, December 16, 1826. The period of his boyhood and early youth was spent in the land of his nativity, his education being begun in the schools of that country when he was a little lad of five years. At the early age of ten years he became a shop boy in a draper's store, remaining in that capacity for three years, when he was apprenticed to the iron molder's trade in Glasgow, Scotland. After serving an apprenticeship of seven years he went to Liverpool, England, where he worked at his trade for eight months. Returning to Glasgow, he there worked at his trade during the succeeding six or seven months.

In 1847, upon attaining his majority, James Yuill left his native land for the new world, arriving in New York in April, 1848. He at once found employment in the eastern metropolis with the Allaire Iron Works, one of his fellow workmen being John Roach, who later became the celebrated shipbuilder of Philadelphia. Together they made the castings for the ill fated steamship Pacific, of the Collins line, which after sailing from port was never again heard from. In January, 1849, Mr. Yuill, like many others, was allured to California by the gold excitement, which was then filling the minds of so many people. After a long and wearisome journey covering one hundred and sixty-nine days, Mr. Yuill arrived in San Francisco in September of that year. For over two years he was engaged in digging for gold on the Pacific coast but not meeting with the success he had anticipated, he went to Sydney, New South Wales, arriving in that place early in the year 1853. As he there met with the same ill success, after a short time he went to Melbourne, Victoria, where he engaged in mining for about a year. He then engaged in shipping at Port Philip, Victoria, for a time but in January, 1855, returned to his old home in Glasgow, Scotland.

There on the 13th of June, 1855, James Yuill was united in marriage to Miss Anne Buchanan, who was born in Balfour, Stirlingshire, Scotland, December 13, 1827, a daughter of Thomas and Janet Buchanan. Immediately thereafter Mr. Yuill with his bride set sail for the new world, arriving in New York city on the 24th of August, 1855. Making their way to Buffalo, they became passengers on a steamer on Lake Erie bound for Cleveland, Ohio, traveling by rail from the latter city to Rock Island, Illinois. Crossing the Mississippi river to the then little village of Davenport, they traveled by stage and wagon to Linn county, where Mr. Yuill located on the farm which is now the home of our subject. He accumulated three hundred and sixty acres of land, which is today very valuable. With the development and improvement of this place he was identified for many years.





and on this farm were born to him and his wife four sons and two daughters, as follows: John, Thomas B., George, Jessie B., William S., and Elizabeth S.

A republican in politics, James Yuill was a most public-spirited citizen, filling many offices of trust and responsibility. For eighteen years he served as county supervisor, was township trustee for several terms and for a similar period acted as clerk of the township. He also filled the office of justice of the peace for one term and for thirty-six years was identified with the school board, either as director, secretary or president. He was also for many years supervisor of roads. In 1875 he was elected secretary of the West Side Mutual Fire Insurance Association, which office he filled for a long period. He was also secretary of the Town Mutual Fire Insurance Association and treasurer of the State Tornado Association for a number of years. He was a great traveler, having crossed both the Atlantic and Pacific many times. In 1895 he took a trip back to his native land and at the age of seventy-six years again crossed the Atlantic, sailing through the Mediterranean sea and landing at Cairo, Africa. He made the trip up the Nile river and spent some time in that country. He then crossed the Mediterranean to Italy and toured the continent of Europe before reaching the British isles and again visited Scotland. He sailed from Glasgow and landed in New York city and before returning to his home in Cedar Rapids visited many of the principal cities in the east. He died in the faith of the United Presbyterian church, on the 14th of April, 1907, of which he had long been a member. He rounded out a life of over eighty years and during his long residence in Linn county was held in the highest respect and esteem by all with whom he was associated, either in public or private business affairs. He had long survived his wife, who died December 24, 1879, when fifty-two years of age.

Thomas B. Yuill, the second son and second in order of birth in his father's family, was reared to work on the home farm and pursued his early studies in the district schools, which he attended until his seventeenth year. Returning to the home farm, he assisted his father in the operation of the place until twenty years of age. Being ambitious to see some of the world, he then began traveling, visiting various points in the north, south and east, and was thus employed in different places. Returning once more to the farm, he remained with his father until the latter's death in 1907. He is a most enterprising and diligent man, well and favorably known in the community where the greater part of his life has been passed.

On the 12th of November, 1907, in Cedar Rapids, the marriage of Thomas B. Yuill and Miss Mary J. Wright was celebrated. He is a republican in his political views and affiliations and fraternally he is an Elk. He enjoys the respect of the entire community and no man more fully merits the esteem in which he is universally held.

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#### STANLEY B. NOVOTNY

Stanley B. Novotny, secretary of the George T. Gadd Hardware Company, has spent his entire life in Cedar Rapids, where he is now numbered among the enterprising and capable young business men. He was born June 16, 1883. His father, Anton Novotny, is a well known contractor of Cedar Rapids and was born in Bohemia, emigrating to America in 1876. Here in 1879 he was united in marriage to Miss Anna Kuderna, a lady of Bohemian parentage. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Novotny were born three children, the two daughters being Emma and Clara. The former is now the wife of Frank Tehel. They were married March 9, 1910, and are residing in Fairfax, Iowa. The younger daughter is now completing her education with a course in the Cedar Rapids Business College.





Stanley B. Novotny was a pupil in the public schools of Cedar Rapids and at an early age gained his first experience in the drug business. After one year he was employed at the tinner's trade, at which he worked for two years. His second experience was in the retail grocery line, to which he devoted four years, and then became connected with the George T. Gadd Hardware Company. Within five years he has made continuous progress, and successive promotions have brought him to the position of secretary. He has always remained a resident of Cedar Rapids and the experience and knowledge that he has gained in different lines of business, coupled with a laudable ambition and determination to succeed, have brought him to a most creditable position for one of his years and the future seems bright with promise.

Mr. Novotny finds pleasure and recreation in baseball and fishing when leisure gives him an opportunity for the enjoyment of these sports. He is a member of the Presbyterian church, of the Foresters of America, and the Z. B. J., a Bohemian benevolent society. In politics he is independent, preferring to devote his attention to business affairs and other interests rather than to take an active part in electing men to office. He has many friends in the city of his nativity and the fact that many of these have known him from his boyhood is an indication of an honorable, well-spent life.

Mr. Novotny was married on the 15th of June, 1910, to Miss Rose Rypka, who was born in Oregon, June 16, 1885, and has lived in Cedar Rapids from the year 1903.

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#### FRANK I. McSHANE

Frank I. McShane is a successful farmer of Linn township, who devotes his time and attention to the operation of seventy-seven acres of land. Born in Linn county, August 6, 1866, he is the seventh son and eighth in order of birth in a family of ten children, whose parents were Jacob and Mary (Wilyerd) McShane. They were born in Pennsylvania and accompanied their respective parents to Linn county, where they were married in 1851. They located on a farm in Linn township where they reared their family: Mrs. Alice M. Starry, a resident of Chicago; Lowell, of Iowa; Henry, who makes his home in Nebraska; Emma, John and Porter, all residing in Linn county; Charles I., who is mentioned elsewhere in this work; Frank I., of this review; Mrs. Eveline Perkins, also a resident of Linn county; and Sadie, who died in infancy. Both the parents are now deceased, the father passing away in June, 1907, while the mother, surviving for a short time, was called to the home beyond on the 1st of January, 1910.

At the usual age Frank I. McShane began his education in the district schools and during the periods of vacation was trained in the work of the home farm, assuming larger responsibilities as he grew in strength and years. He continued to live with his father until he was thirty years of age and then began an independent business venture by renting a farm of one hundred and fifty acres. He operated this tract for two years, during which time he won success.

It was about this time that he was married, on the 27th of October, 1897, to Miss Nora Mann, a daughter of Steven and Lucy (Coleman) Mann, who were born in Iowa and Ohio respectively. Mrs. McShane owned sixty-six acres of land in Linn township and it was on this property that she and her husband began their domestic life. He has since added to the property by purchase, the place now embracing seventy-seven acres. On the farm stands good buildings and the land has been placed under a high state of cultivation, so that each year rich harvests are gathered. Mr. McShane understands thoroughly the best methods of farming and this has formed the basis of his present success.



Mrs. McShane is the youngest in a family of four children but her two brothers, Emmett E. and Francis, are now deceased. Her only sister is Edna, the wife of S. W. Johnson, a resident of Linn county. The father died January 22, 1892, but the mother still survives and makes her home in Brown township, Linn county. By her marriage Mrs. McShane has become the mother of a daughter and son: Ethel D., who was born September 29, 1899; and Paul Lawrence, born February 8, 1910.

Mr. McShane is a stalwart supporter of the democratic party but is not an office seeker. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church. Having spent their entire lives in Linn county, they are well and favorably known, the hospitality of their pleasant country home being extended to their numerous friends and acquaintances.

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### HON. WILLARD C. STUCKSLAGER

Hon. Willard C. Stuckslager, serving for the second term as senator from the twenty-sixth district, and well known as a leading banker of Linn county, makes his home in Lisbon, his native city. He was born October 24, 1869, a son of Harrison Stuckslager whose birth occurred in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, in February, 1825. In the year 1851 the father arrived in Marion, Iowa, and resided in this county for four years. He then went to Leavenworth, Kansas, where he remained for about two years, after which he returned to Pennsylvania, where he continued for a short time. He then again came to Linn county, Iowa, where he engaged in farming and in the stock business. During his previous residence in this county he had operated a sawmill. After his return he continued in general agricultural pursuits and in the live-stock business until 1874, when he became a factor in financial circles, founding the First National Bank of Lisbon, of which he became the president. A few years later he and Gotlieb Auracher, who was the cashier of the bank, purchased the interests of the other stockholders, surrendered the charter of the First National Bank and took over the business which they conducted as a private bank under the firm name of Stuckslager & Auracher. The business has since continued under this caption, John Auracher succeeding his father as cashier at the death of the latter, while Willard Stuckslager succeeded his father in the presidency. Harrison Stuckslager continued in active connection with the bank until his demise, June 8, 1885.

Tracing the ancestry of the family to a more remote period, it is learned that the great-grandfather was a Hessian soldier, who came from England to fight the American troops who were attempting to win national independence. Pleased with the country, he settled in Maryland at the close of the Revolutionary war. His son, Charles, a native of Maryland, removed to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, as a young man, and there married Miss Robinson, a lady of Scotch-Irish lineage. They afterward went to Fayette county, Pennsylvania, where they spent their remaining days as farming people. Their family numbered six daughters and eight sons, of whom Harrison Stuckslager was the tenth in order of birth. His wife bore the maiden name of Mary Coldren and was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, March 3, 1830. As previously stated, Harrison Stuckslager made his way westward in 1851 but in 1866 returned to the Keystone state, where he wedded Mary Coldren and brought her as his bride to Linn county where they established their home. Her death occurred May 24, 1909.

Willard C. Stuckslager, their only child, was reared in this county where he has always made his home, and in 1886 was graduated from the high school. He afterward attended Cornell College at Mount Vernon, where he pursued his studies for five years, and then entered the Chicago University, devoting a year



to a special course in political economy. He afterward traveled for a year in California and other districts of the west, and upon his return to Lisbon entered into active connection with the bank which had been established by his father and has since been continuously engaged in the banking business. He is now well known as one of the partners of the private bank of Stuckslager & Auracher, and is also president of the Mount Vernon Bank located in the adjoining town of Mount Vernon. His name is a synonym for progression and reliability in the field of banking and the record of his success is written in the tangible terms of profit.

On the 9th of November, 1889, Mr. Stuckslager was united in marriage to Miss R. Eloise Bronson, a native of Wyoming, Jones county, and a daughter of James A. Bronson, who founded the town of Wyoming. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Stuckslager have been born four daughters, Mary, Rowena Eloise, Elizabeth and Constance. The family attend the Methodist Episcopal church of which the parents are members. They are prominent in the social circles of Lisbon and moreover have a wide acquaintance in the county. Mr. Stuckslager is a republican in politics and is perhaps best known by reason of the prominence to which he has attained in the political field. In the fall of 1899 he was elected to the lower house of the state legislature and served for two terms. He was then elected to the state senate in 1903, taking the oath of office in January, 1904, and serving during the thirtieth, thirty-first and thirty-second and the thirty-second extra general assemblies. In 1908 he was reelected and is now a member of the upper house. His reelection is proof of the confidence reposed in him by the party in Linn county and is an expression of public approval concerning his first term. He has served on a number of important committees and given careful consideration to each question which comes up for settlement. His course in the senate as in the house is one that entitles him to mention with the able and well known lawmakers of Iowa.

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#### FENTON M. HANN

One of the most energetic and public-spirited citizens of Springville is Fenton M. Hann, who is interested in several different enterprises and is regarded as one of the leading business men of the place. He is a native of Linn county, born here on the 2d of November, 1871, his parents being Jerome D. and Harriet Adaline (Nailor) Hann, who were born, reared and married in the Buckeye state. Soon after their union they came to Iowa and located in Springville, where the father, who was a carpenter by trade, followed that occupation for a year or more. He then removed to a farm eight miles from Marion and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, which he followed until some time in the '90s. He then located in Mount Vernon for the purpose of educating his younger children and continued to make his home there until the fall of 1909, when he removed to Cedar Rapids, where he is now living retired. On his removal to Mount Vernon he still owned two hundred acres of farm land, but has since disposed of one hundred and twenty acres of this, which he sold to his son Forest, retaining only eighty acres. Besides this property he also owns a residence in Mount Vernon. During the dark days of the Civil war he espoused the cause of the Union and is today an honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic, while both he and his wife are affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church. The republican party finds in him a stanch supporter of its principles and he takes a commendable interest in public affairs.

Fenton M. Hann passed his early life on the home farm and acquired his elementary education in the public schools, later attending the high school at Marion. On reaching manhood he worked for his brother on the farm for a short time, but





at the age of twenty-two went to Cedar Rapids, where for seven years he was employed as a salesman in various clothing stores, principally with the firm of Armstrong & McClenahan. In 1901 he purchased the Springville Electric Light Plant, of which he took possession the 1st of February of that year and has since engaged in its operation.

It was on the 23d of February, 1901, that Mr. Hann was united in marriage to Miss Anna B. Christman, of Springville, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Berg) Christman, who were natives of France and Germany respectively. As children they came to this country with their respective parents, the Christman family locating in Dubuque, Iowa, while the Berg family spent some years in Pennsylvania prior to coming west and settling in Dubuque. It was in that city that Mr. and Mrs. Christman were married and they continued to reside there for a few years, but later became residents of Springville. He was one of the most prominent business men of the town, for several years conducting a general store and also a coal and lumber business besides being interested in various other enterprises, which proved of benefit to his adopted county. He died in Springville in 1889, but Mrs. Christman is still living and continues to reside in that place. Mr. and Mrs. Hann have one child, John Jerome, born December 23, 1909.

As Mrs. Hann owned a half interest in the old Christman farm of seventy-one acres adjoining the town, our subject purchased the other half and to this has added a tract of sixteen acres, making in all eighty-seven acres, which he is now successfully cultivating in connection with the operation of an eighty-acre tract, which he rents. In 1901 he also bought the ice business of Springville, which he has since carried on in connection with the operation of his electric light plant. He is regarded as one of the leading business men of Springville, is enterprising, energetic and progressive and usually carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. By his ballot he supports the men and measures of the republican party and is a worthy member of Elpidon Lodge, No. 241, Knights of Pythias.

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### JOSEPH M. KEARNS

To the operation of the old homestead farm, comprising one hundred forty-two and one-half acres of land in Linn township, Joseph M. Kearns is devoting his time and attention. He was born on this farm July 2, 1880, the youngest of eight children, whose parents are Valentine and Ella (Erion) Kearns, who were natives of Ohio. In 1853 the family sought a home in the middle west, making a location in Linn county, Iowa. At that time the country was but sparsely settled and much of the land was still unclaimed. The tract on which Valentine Kearns and his parents took up their abode, the grandfather entered from the government and his first work was to prepare a little home for his family, which was a crude dwelling built of logs. In this they lived for several years but as soon as circumstances would permit the log cabin was replaced by a more modern frame structure, which is still standing on the place. The father of our subject made many other improvements on the place and placed the land under a high state of cultivation. He engaged in farming throughout his active business career but in 1909 put aside this work and removed to Marion, where he has since lived retired, enjoying in comfort and ease the fruits of his former toil. Unto him and his wife were born eight children, as follows: Carl E., Clyde W., Grace E., William E., Arthur R., Mabel I., Ruth O. and Joseph M., of this review.

The last named acquired his education in the common schools and early became familiar with the work of plowing, planting and harvesting, heavier tasks



being assigned him as his age and strength increased. He remained at home until twenty-two years of age, after which he was employed for one year at farm labor. He then took a course in stenography and, seeking employment along that line of activity, was in the service of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Company at Cedar Rapids for three years. However, farming seemed to appeal more strongly to his taste and on the expiration of that period he returned to the old homestead, since which time he has been operating the place. He is working diligently in the conduct of his business affairs and his labors are being rewarded with good returns.

Mr. Kearns completed arrangements for having a home of his own by his marriage on the 23d of October, 1907, to Miss Margaret McBride, a daughter of John and Jemima (Kerr) McBride, natives of the Buckeye state, in whose family were six children, all living, namely: Amanda, George, Alice, Mary, Margaret, now Mrs. Kearns, and Anna. A little daughter, Margaret Isabel, graces the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kearns. Her birth occurred October 22, 1908.

In his political views Mr. Kearns is a republican but does not care for public office. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Presbyterian church. The spirit of self-help is the source of all genuine worth in the individual and this truth is abundantly verified in the life of Mr. Kearns. Steadily pursuing his way undeterred by the obstacles and difficulties in his path, he is achieving a prosperity of which he has every reason to be proud.

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#### EDWIN T. HEALD

Edwin T. Heald, a member of the board of county trustees of Brown township and one of the representative farmers in that part of the county, owning and cultivating an excellent tract of land of eighty acres, was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, March 28, 1852. His parents, James and Abi (Stratton) Heald were both natives of Columbiana county, where they were reared and married. They took up their abode upon a farm and there the mother died in the fall of 1879. In 1881 the father and his youngest son, Lewis J. Heald, came west to Iowa, settling first in Cedar county, where Mr. Heald purchased fifty-two acres of land, upon which he made his home up to the time of his death. He was a republican in his political views and was well informed concerning the leading questions and issues of the day. At all times he took an active interest in the welfare of his party and did everything in his power to promote its support, but never sought or desired office. He was a consistent Christian gentleman, holding membership in the Friends church, and in that faith passed away in 1899.

Edwin T. Heald was reared upon the home farm and acquired his education in the public schools and at a Friends boarding school at Mount Pleasant, Ohio. When twenty-two years of age he started out in life on his own account, working during the summer months at farm labor, while in the winter season he worked in the woods, getting out logs and splitting rails. In 1875 he came west to Iowa, driving through by team and settling in Linn county, where he began farming upon a tract of rented land. In 1877 he was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Emmons of Marion township, a daughter of Micajah Emmons, who came to this state from Ohio in the fall of 1864. He first settled in Benton county and in 1873 came to Linn county. In 1885 he started on a tour of inspection with the intention of locating in Arkansas, where the weather was warmer and where there was more fruit, but he did not like the country and continued as far west as Lane county, Kansas, where he bought a relinquishment on a farm. There he remained for three and one-half years, after which he returned to Linn county, Iowa, convinced that other districts did not offer the opportunities here afforded. After





his return he rented from Jonathan Elliott a farm which he cultivated for eight years. He then went to Cedar county and purchased his father's farm, there remaining for three and one-half years. On the expiration of that period he sold the property and established his home in Brown township, Linn county, purchasing his present farm of eighty acres, upon which he has since resided. It is a valuable and productive tract, equipped with modern conveniences and improvements. There is no finer farm of eighty acres in Brown township and its attractive appearance indicates his careful supervision and practical methods.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Heald have been born three children, of whom two are yet living: Sarah, the wife of Walter J. Stanley, a farmer of Brown township; and Eva D., the wife of Ellis W. Stanley of Marion township.

In his political views Mr. Heald has always been a republican since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He is a member of the school board, in which capacity he served for several years. In the fall of 1908 he was elected to the board of township trustees, in which office he is now serving, and his cooperation is given to all measures and movements for the public good, whether in an official or private capacity. Both he and his wife are members of the Friends church and are widely and favorably known throughout the county.

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### FRED MARTIN

Fred Martin, who is classed among the successful farmers of Linn county, owns and operates a tract of land of eighty acres in Linn township. He was born across the water, his birthplace being Cambridgeshire, England, and his natal day January 18, 1858. He is the youngest in a family of six children born of the marriage of William and Mary A. (Piper) Martin, who were likewise natives of that country. The mother died many years ago, her death occurring in 1866, but the father, surviving for a long period, departed this life in 1900. Both spent their entire lives in England. The record of their six children is as follows: William, a resident of England; Burgess, who lives in Marion township, Linn county; Mary Ann, the wife of Steve Smith, of England; Robert and Richard, who make their home in Brown township; and Fred, of this review.

Fred Martin spent the first eighteen years of his life in the land of his nativity and there acquired his education in the common schools. At that time, ambitious to make a place for himself in the business world, he crossed the Atlantic and made his way to Canada, the year of his arrival there being 1876. For one year thereafter he was employed at farm labor and on the expiration of that period, sought still a wider field for his activity in the United States, locating in Linn county, Iowa. Here he was similarly employed for ten years and at the end of that time began farming on his own account. He is now the owner of eighty acres of valuable and well improved land in Linn county and on this tract he is engaged in general farming and stock-raising, his labors bringing him a gratifying success.

It was on the 2d of September, 1883, that Mr. Martin was united in marriage to Miss Frances E. Drips, a daughter of George and Mary Drips, both natives of Ohio. The seven surviving members of their family are: Mrs. Martin; Wealthy, the wife of J. E. Barner, of Linn township; John I. and Walter G., who also make their home in Linn township; Ollie, the wife of Fred Ilginfritz, a resident of Brown township; Maggie, the wife of Charles Woods, of Brown township; and Joseph, who resides in Linn township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Martin were born five children, three daughters and two sons: Pearl, the wife of Clarence Miller, a resident of Jones county, Iowa; Edna, Guy, Jessie and Raymond, all at home. All have received good educational advantages. The wife and mother





was called to her final rest October 3, 1906, at the comparatively early age of thirty-six years, and her remains were interred in the Linn Grove cemetery.

In his political views Mr. Martin is a democrat but has never been active in public affairs. He belongs to Knights of Pythias Lodge, No. 297, at Martelle, in which he holds office, and he and his family are members of the Christian church. His energy and perseverance have enabled him to overcome all obstacles in his path and, working his way gradually upward, he now stands among the substantial and successful farmers of this section of the state.

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### WILLIAM K. WILD

One of the valuable farm properties of Linn county is that owned by William K. Wild. It is situated in Brown township and comprises one hundred acres of land naturally rich and arable. Moreover, the methods he has employed in its cultivation have added to its productiveness and the appearance of the farm is further enhanced by its excellent buildings, in keeping with the most modern and progressive ideas concerning agricultural development. Mr. Wild is a native of Grant county, Wisconsin. He was born December 24, 1867, and is a son of David and Mary Ann (Kay) Wild, who were natives of England and Wisconsin respectively. The father was born in Cumberland county, England, September 15, 1836, and was a son of Joseph and Jane (Southward) Wild, who were also natives of that country, the former born in Lancashire and the latter in Cumberland. They spent their entire lives in England, Joseph Wild there following the blacksmith's trade.

David Wild acquired his education in private schools and had reached the age of thirteen years and five months when he was apprenticed to the joiner's and wagon maker's trade, devoting his time thereto until his emigration to the United States in 1858. On leaving England it was his intention to go to Australia but on landing at New York he was persuaded by the companion with whom he had worked in the shops in England and who had a brother in Minnesota, to visit in that state. They crossed the ocean on a sailing vessel, being forty-two days on the voyage. The ship on which they made the trip from Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, to St. Paul carried the first message ever sent across the Atlantic cable — a message of congratulation from Queen Victoria to President Buchanan. They remained in Minnesota for only about a month and then came west in search of work. On reaching Dubuque, Iowa, David Wild secured employment at making doors and there remained for about a year and a half, when he went to Georgetown, Grant county, Wisconsin, where he opened a wagon shop. He served as a bridge builder in the Civil war, after which he returned to Wisconsin, there remaining until 1868, when he came to Iowa, settling on a farm in Brown township, Linn county. His first purchase made him owner of eighty acres, to which he afterward added another eighty-acre tract. For many years he carried on general agricultural pursuits but in the spring of 1910 retired from active life and removed to Springville, where he is now living. His wife died August 31, 1909. David Wild is a member of the Episcopal church, gives his political allegiance to the democratic party and is identified with William Carbee Post, G. A. R. Unto Mr. and Mrs. David Wild were born thirteen children, as follows: Mrs. James Pearson; Mrs. George E. Calvert, who is a resident of Jones county; William K., of this review; Mrs. Vinton Smith, living in Cedar Rapids; John, a resident of Marion; Charles S., who makes his home in Maine township, Linn county; Alice, the wife of W. S. Cooper, of Edmunds county, South Dakota; Rosa M., who is the wife of Wilbur Hakes and resides in Marion; George and Fred, who operate



the home farm on section 6; Edward, an agriculturist of Jones county; Leona, a teacher of Brown township; and Bertha, at home.

William K. Wild spent his youthful days in his parents' home. He was only about a year old when brought from Wisconsin to Iowa and in the public schools of the state he acquired his education. He remained at home until his twenty-first year, when he went to Jones county and opened up a general store at the small town of Cass, there conducting business for five years. He then sold out and went to Delaware county, purchasing a store in the town of Delaware, of which he remained proprietor for two years. At the end of that time the building and store were destroyed by fire and, retiring from the mercantile field, he came to Linn county, and purchased his present valuable farm of one hundred acres in Brown township, upon which he has since carried on general agricultural pursuits. His is an excellent property and in its splendid appearance gives every indication of the careful supervision and practical methods of the owner.

Mr. Wild was married on the 15th of June, 1898, to Miss Lucy Day, of Anamosa, Iowa, a daughter of Simon Day, a prominent farmer living near Anamosa. By this marriage two children have been born, Bessie Leola and Opal Izetta. Mr. Wild is a member of Elpidon Lodge, No. 241, K. P., and Springville Camp, No. 3346, M. W. A. He has followed in his father's political footsteps and gives his support to the democracy. In the various things which he has undertaken he has manifested unfaltering diligence and determination and has made continuous progress, so that he is now one of the substantial citizens of Brown township. His strongly developed traits of character are such as have won him the highest regard and he has many friends in the county.

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#### WALTER J. WALTON

On the list of Linn county's honored dead appears the name of Walter J. Walton, who for many years was identified with the agricultural and business interests of this section of the state. He was a native of Linn township, born March 14, 1850, a son of John W. and Katherine (Remling) Walton. The father was a native of England, while the mother claimed Pennsylvania as the place of her nativity. In 1849 they came to Linn county and settled on a tract of land which the father entered from the government in Linn township. With the development and improvement of this farm he was thereafter identified until his death, which occurred on the 22d of September, 1881. He survived his wife for only a brief period, her death occurring in 1880. Thus for more than three decades they were numbered among the substantial and honored citizens of Linn county and at their deaths the county lost two of its most highly respected people.

Walter J. Walton was reared on the home farm in Linn township, early being trained in the work of the fields and in caring for the crops, so that when he started out to meet the responsibilities of life on his own account he was well prepared for the duties that came to him. He remained at home until he was twenty-two years of age, and at that period in his life he was married, after which he located on the farm belonging to his father and operated it until his death. In the meantime he purchased the old homestead, comprising one hundred and sixty acres and placed many modern improvements thereon. On the place is seen a good country residence, in the rear of which are substantial barns and outbuildings and throughout his career he ever took a just pride in keeping the buildings in good condition, while his fields also annually returned rich crops as a reward for the care and labor he bestowed upon them.

As above stated, Mr. Walton was a young man of twenty-two years at the time of his marriage, the lady of his choice being Miss Carrie Durbin, a daughter of





Joseph and Eliza (Woods) Durbin, who were natives of West Virginia, whence they came to Linn county in 1850 and located in Lisbon. There the father operated a blacksmith shop until his death, which occurred September 21, 1902, when he had reached an advanced age. The mother still survives and makes her home with her daughter Mrs. Wilson in Linn township. Her children are: Levina, deceased; Josephine and Jennie, who have also departed this life; George, a resident of Lisbon, Iowa; Florence, the wife of O. P. Wilson, of Linn county; and Mrs. Walton.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Walton were born ten children, as follows: Thomas G., who was born November 11, 1872, and lives in Mount Vernon; Alice E., the wife of Phillip Carney, of Lisbon, Iowa; Kitty A., the wife of Ephraim Daubemier, of Linn township; Ruah E., who died in 1885; Alfred G., who was born on the 19th of March, 1881, and resides in Linn county; Levina J., who was born September 27, 1882, and is at home; Florence L., who was born April 10, 1884, and is now the wife of George Thompson, a resident of Minnesota; Joseph C., who was born March 11, 1886, and lives on the old homestead farm; Hannah P., who was born June 20, 1888, and is at home; and Margaret M., who was born March 6, 1892, and is at home. All the children were educated in the common schools. The widow still retains possession of one-third of the farm and her son Joseph has purchased the interests of the other heirs in two-thirds and is now operating the same.

Mr. Walton gave his political support to the democratic party, while his religious faith was indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, in the faith of which he passed away on the 23d September, 1894. His purposes were ever kindly, his sympathy unbounded and all who knew him felt honored by his friendship.

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#### MISS EDNA CHAPMAN

Miss Edna Chapman, a well known resident of Brown township, has spent her entire life in Linn county, her birth occurring in Marion, Marion township. Her parents were Nathaniel and Margaret (House) Chapman, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania respectively. In early life they emigrated to Iowa, becoming settlers of Linn county in the early '40s. Here they were married and continued to reside throughout the remainder of their lives, the mother passing away in 1861. The father, who was a brick molder by trade, died in 1871, about the time of the Chicago fire. Of the five children born unto this worthy couple three are still living. Fraternally the father was a Mason, belonging to the blue lodge in Marion, and both he and his wife were held in the highest esteem by all who knew them.

At the age of three years Miss Chapman became a member of the household of her uncle and aunt, H. N. and Julia A. (Chapman) Brown, the latter being a sister of her father. She was a native of Ohio, while Mr. Brown was born in Pennsylvania. Coming west in 1839, they settled in Linn county, Iowa, on the 17th of May and here he entered land, which he at once began to improve and cultivate, erecting thereon a log house, in which the family lived for some time. He was a very energetic farmer and prospered in his undertakings, becoming a well-to-do man. He, too, was a member of the Masonic fraternity, having taken the degrees of the blue lodge. After a useful and well spent life Mr. Brown passed away on the 18th of February, 1893, and his wife departed this life December 9, 1905, both being laid to rest in the Springville cemetery.

In their home Miss Chapman grew to womanhood and on their death she inherited considerable property, including a large farm, which she recently sold, but she still owns a three-quarter interest in a fine residence. During her girl-





hood she was tenderly reared by her foster parents and was given a good education, completing the high school course. She is a faithful and earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal church, taking a very active and prominent part in its work as a member of the Ladies Aid Society and also of the Home Missionary Society. Wherever known she is held in high regard and has many friends throughout her native county.

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#### CASS THOMAS HOUSER, M. D.

Dr. Cass Thomas Houser, who as a representative of the medical fraternity of Linn county, is now successfully engaged in practice in Palo, claims Kansas as his native state, for he was born in Ottawa county, November 12, 1879. His parents were John and Minnie (Lockheart) Houser, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Benton county, Iowa, where their marriage was celebrated. Later they removed to Ottawa county, Kansas, where they resided on a farm until 1887, when they returned to Iowa and located just over the Linn county line in Buchanan county. Subsequently they took up their residence in Center Point, Linn county, where the father passed away in January, 1907. The mother is still living and continues to make her home in Center Point.

Dr. Houser accompanied his parents on their return to this state and here he was mainly reared and educated, attending the public schools and later the Schroeder Academy at Urbana. He next entered the Iowa State Normal College at Cedar Falls and in 1900 took up the study of medicine in the medical department of the State University of Iowa, graduating from that institution with the class of 1904. He next pursued a six months' post graduate course at the Chicago Polyclinic School and thus, being well equipped for his chosen profession, he opened an office in Palo and during the years that have since come and gone he has built up a large and remunerative practice. By reading and study he keeps well informed on all matters pertaining to his profession, yet his conservative methods have gained him the confidence of those who have come under his care.

On the 29th of December, 1904, was celebrated the marriage of Dr. Houser and Miss Maud L. Fleming, of Center Point, and they have become the parents of one child, Maxine Mae. Mrs. Hauser is a member of the Christian church, while the doctor is identified with the Linn county Medical Society. His political support is given the republican party. Although he is one of the younger representatives of his profession, he has already won an excellent patronage and undoubtedly a successful future is in store for him.

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#### JOSEPH C. DVORAK

Joseph C. Dvorak is the senior partner of the firm of J. C. Dvorak & Son, dealers in hardware and agricultural implements, wagons, buggies, pumps and harness at Ely. Linn county largely owes her development to her Bohemian citizens, which number includes Mr. Dvorak, who was born in Luzany on the 9th of February, 1861. He was the eldest son of Albert and Anna (Cervenka) Dvorak. The father was born January 23, 1836, and the mother on the 22d of June, 1840. They are now residents of Cedar Rapids, and the father has retired from active connection with business interests.

Joseph C. Dvorak was only four years of age when, in September, 1865, he came with his parents to Linn county, the family home being established in Putnam township upon a tract of eighty acres of unbroken timber land situated on



section 36. The father cleared the place and built a log cabin, and as time passed on added other improvements. He had never been trained to any special trade or occupation, and after coming to the United States worked for a time as a farm hand. He possessed laudable ambition, however, and determined that he would have a farm of his own. He was several hundred dollars in debt when he made his first purchase of land. The little log cabin which he built had only the ground for a floor, but nevertheless the family that occupied it was a happy one, and father and sons labored to improve the place and to provide better comforts for the family. In the course of years Albert Dvorak prospered, building his success upon the sure and safe foundation of diligence and determination. He became the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and seventy-five acres and is today one of the substantial residents of Cedar Rapids, where he occupies a comfortable home that is indicative of the fact that he no longer bears the hardships and privations of pioneer times but benefits by the fruit of his former labors. In the family are three sons who are yet living, Joseph, Albert F. and Emil, of Cedar Rapids, while the daughters of the household are: Mrs. Frances Hanzlik; Mary, the wife of Frank Grubhoffer; Anna, the wife of Jerry Hruska of Cedar Rapids; and Emma, at home.

Joseph Dvorak attended school only about five winter terms, his education being largely acquired through his own efforts. Being the eldest son, he had to assist his father on the farm and that in his youth he has proven his worth as a citizen and business man is indicated by the fact that when he was but twenty-one years of age his fellow townsmen elected him secretary of the school board and justice of the peace in Putnam township. He has been almost continuously in the public service since that time and has been found a most efficient official whose loyalty to every public trust has been one of his salient characteristics.

Mr. Dvorak carried on farming until twenty-nine years of age, when he rented his land and established a hardware and implement business, which he has since conducted with excellent success. His store is stocked with a large and complete line of shelf and heavy hardware, agricultural implements, harness, wagons, buggies and pumps. In fact this is one of the best stores in Linn county. After proving that his capabilities were such as could master all the difficult problems of merchandising, he sold his farm. Now he is practically retired from active business, leaving the actual work of the store to his son and son-in-law, yet his sound judgment and keen discrimination are constantly manifest in the management of the store. The firm not only handles and manufactures harness but does considerable repair work of that character. Mr. Dvorak is a member of the Iowa Implement Dealers Association and of the Iowa Hardware Dealers Association, and is interested in all that pertains to the development of the trade.

On the 1st of September, 1884, Mr. Dvorak was married to Miss Mary A. Cervený, of Fairfax township, the second daughter of Joseph and Katherine (Silhanek) Cervený, who were also natives of Bohemia. Both Mr. and Mrs. Cervený still live in Fairfax township. The father was born in 1841 and the mother in 1842. They came to this county in their youthful days and settled in Fairfax township, where Mr. Cervený carried on farming for many years but is now living retired. Their children are Joseph F., Wesley, John, Frank, Josephine, Anna, Frances, Barbara, Rosa, Emma and Agnes. Of these Emma is now a resident of Redfield, North Dakota, and Agnes of Keokuk, Iowa. Their daughter, Mrs. Dvorak, was born January 1, 1866. Her children are: Wesley J., who was born August 27, 1885, and is associated with his father in business; Rosa G., who was born July 12, 1888, and is now the wife of Joseph Krenenak, of Ely, who is also connected with the hardware store; and Matilda O., who was born March 12, 1893, and is at home.



Mr. Dvorak is a member of Ely Lodge, No. 581, I. O. O. F., in which he takes a very active and helpful interest. He has occupied every chair in the local organization and is now financial secretary. He has also represented his lodge in the Grand Lodge and both he and his wife are connected with the Rebekahs. He is likewise a member of the Bohemian Turner Society and the Z. C. B. J., and his political views are in accord with the platform of the democratic party. Again and again he has been called to public office and is now mayor of Ely, in which connection he is giving a public-spirited and businesslike administration that is characterized by needed reform and improvement. His religion is the Golden Rule which his friends say he puts into practice, applying it to his business and to his duties of citizenship. He possesses considerable oratorical ability and on various occasions has delivered touching addresses at the funeral of friends and neighbors. He stands on the side of righteousness, justice, truth and progress, and he is widely recognized as a leader among his countrymen.

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### THOMAS ROGERS

Many of the most substantial and well-to-do citizens of Linn county are found among her farmers and stock-raisers and Thomas Rogers, whose name introduces this review, is classed with this number. He has accumulated two hundred and ninety acres of the finest land to be found in the rich agricultural districts of Iowa, and although he has made his home in this county for only a few years he has already gained an honorable place among its representative men. He is, however, a native of the state, his birth having occurred on a farm in Clinton county, May 31, 1860.

His parents, William and Isabelle (Harris) Rogers, were both natives of Perthshire, Scotland, whence they emigrated to the new world in 1858, settling on a farm in Clinton county, Iowa. There the father developed and improved new land and was identified with the agricultural interests of that section of the state during his remaining years. Unto him and his wife were born eight children, namely: Isabel, a resident of Wapello, Iowa; May A., who became the wife of H. M. Davis of Tama county and died in 1896, leaving a daughter; Thomas, of this review; Alexander, who died in infancy; Jessie, who died when in her ninth year; William, who lives on a farm near Wapello; Mrs. Elizabeth Holmes, of Muscatine, Iowa; and James, who lives in Wapello. The mother lived only about twelve years after coming to Iowa, her death occurring in 1870. The father survived for many years and departed this life in 1895.

Thomas Rogers, the third in order of birth in his father's family, remained under the parental roof until he had reached the age of twenty-three years and from the period of his early boyhood was trained in the work of the home farm. At that age he started out to make his own way in the world and for one year was employed at farm labor by the month. He then purchased one hundred and thirty acres of land in Clinton county, operating the same until 1897. He then disposed of that property to advantage and invested his money in two hundred and forty acres in Louisa county, this state. He made his home thereon for five years, or until 1901, when he made another change in location and, disposing of that farm, came to Linn county, purchasing one hundred and seventy acres, whereon he made his home until the fall of 1910. In the meantime, in 1909, he purchased a second tract, comprising one hundred and twenty acres, and it was upon the latter place that he took up his abode in October, 1910. His possessions in Linn county now embrace two hundred and ninety acres, all lying in Linn township, and thus his time is fully occupied in the work of general farming and stock-raising. He is meeting with very desirable success in his undertakings





and his capable management and keen foresight have enabled him to add not a little to his income in the buying and selling of various farm properties. He has made many improvements upon his land and he and his family now occupy a nice modern residence, in the rear of which are seen substantial outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock. Every change he has made in his business life has given him broader scope for the exercise of his energy, ambition and industry — his dominant powers, and thus he stands today among the men of affluence in Linn county.

On the 19th of December, 1888, Mr. Rogers was married to Miss Nettie L. Dunham, who has proved to him a most faithful and helpful companion. She is the only living daughter of Wesley H. and Celia (Clapp) Dunham, both of whom were natives of New York. In 1868 they removed to the middle west and located on a farm in Clinton county. For many years they were numbered among the worthy farming people of that section of the state but spent their last years in honorable retirement, the father passing away in 1905. The mother survived for only a brief period, her demise occurring the following year, in 1906.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rogers have been born two sons and three daughters, namely: Wesley W., who was born December 2, 1889, and is a high-school student at Mount Vernon, being a member of the graduating class of 1911; Glenn H., who was born May 29, 1891, and is a member of the same class; Celia, who was born December 13, 1893, and who will likewise graduate from high school in 1911; Dorothy D., who was born February 25, 1896, and is a high-school student; and Mary, who was born July 31, 1901, and is in school at Mount Vernon.

Politically Mr. Rogers is a republican, while his fraternal relations are with the Odd Fellows, his membership being in Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 551. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. He owes his success to his own thrift, energy and economy. In his earlier years he had many difficulties and obstacles to overcome but despite that fact he has made steady progress along well defined lines of labor and in accordance with honorable methods and is today one of the most prominent and representative agriculturists of Linn county.

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### FREDERICK G. SHURTLEFF

Although agricultural pursuits claim the greater part of the time and attention of Frederick G. Shurtleff, he is also interested in other enterprises and is today actively identified with banking institutions of this county. He has made his home in Fayette township throughout life, his birth occurring there on the 15th of May, 1855, and he is a son of Jerome and Mary (Dumbauld) Shurtleff, of whom more extended mention is made in the sketch of L. J. Shurtleff on another page of this volume. Frederick G. Shurtleff remained with his parents until reaching man's estate and in the meantime pursued his studies in the common and graded schools of his native township. In his twenty-second year he began farming on his father's land, which he operated on shares. It was in the spring of 1881 that he made his first purchase, consisting of ten acres of his present farm in Fayette township. As time passed and he prospered in his farming operations he extended the boundaries of his place by additional purchase until he now owns two hundred and ten acres. A progressive and energetic agriculturist, success has crowned his efforts and his farm is now one of the best improved and most highly cultivated places of the locality.

The republican party has always found in Mr. Shurtleff a stalwart supporter of its principles and he was called upon to serve for three terms as assessor of his township, in which capacity he was active in upholding the mullet law and was



the first man in Linn county to take an active part in the suppression of the illicit sale of whisky under this law. His attention, however, is mainly given to his business interests and he was one of the organizers of the Peoples Savings Bank of Shellsburg and is today one of its heaviest stockholders. He was also one of the prime factors in the organization of the Palo Savings Bank and is a member of its board of directors. His business interests have always been wisely managed and he is a man of sound judgment and good executive ability, who usually carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

### GILES FONDA VAN VECHTEN

Not only Cedar Rapids but Iowa mourn the death of Giles Fonda Van Vechten, whose life was an honor to the community which claimed him as a citizen. While he attained notable success, his prosperity was never won at the cost of another's failure; on the contrary he always utilized constructive methods and his labors proved a source of benefit to the city as well as of profit to himself. He held to high standards of manhood and citizenship and for thirty-three years Cedar Rapids had the good fortune to number him with her residents, for his efforts and influence were an effective force in her upbuilding.

Giles Fonda Van Vechten was born in Denmark, Lewis county, New York, August 5, 1827, and was descended from Holland settlers who early chose the Empire state as a place of residence, while their descendants have remained factors in its development up to the present time. The name of Van Vechten, however, originated during the days of the Caesars and is traceable to the name of an old Roman camping place called Vectum, now Vechten, near Utrecht, Holland. The name signifies "from the fighting place." The first representative of the family in America was Teunis Direksen Van Vechten, who took passage with his wife and one child and two servants on the ship Amos of Norway, bound for the New Netherlands. He established his home on a farm at Greenbush, opposite Albany, New York, in 1638, and his descendants are still to be found in that district. Gilbert Van Vechten, father of Giles Fonda Van Vechten, was a farmer of Lewis county, New York, and there married Ilona Bent, who came from New England ancestry, her father having been born in Templeton, Massachusetts.

In the district schools near his father's home Giles Fonda Van Vechten pursued his early education and later attended the Denmark Academy. He was twenty-five years of age when he became identified with the middle west, removing to Milledgeville, Carroll county, Illinois, in 1854. He was there engaged in farming and stock-raising with good success until 1865, when he joined Henry G. Page of Lanark, Illinois, in establishing the private bank of Van Vechten and Page in the town of Lanark. This new financial enterprise proved a profitable undertaking and was later converted into the First National Bank, Mr. Van Vechten continuing his connection therewith for about a decade, when in 1875 he disposed of his interest in the bank and other property at Lanark and removed to Minneapolis, Minnesota. The following year, however he came to Cedar Rapids and from November, 1876, until his death was an active, valued and honored resident of this city. Here he established a private bank under his own name and in 1886 reorganized the business under the style of the Cedar Rapids National Bank, of which he was vice president to the time of his death. In 1889 he became one of the founders of the Security Savings Bank and continuously filled the office of president until his demise. Progressive management of the bank's affairs was always tempered by a safe conservatism that won the confidence of the public and secured a liberal patronage. The bank under his direction successfully weathered several financial panics, and the interests of depositors and



patrons were always conserved by the thoroughly reliable methods and the keen sagacity of Mr. Van Vechten and his associate officers. He gave much of his time to the supervision of the investment of funds entrusted to him and no one ever lost a dollar through him. In all of his business career he was actuated by the desire to assist and help others as well as himself. He wished that he were able to give all men and women an opportunity in the world and to guard them against failure, and many a man has reason to bless his memory for kindly counsel and advice.

On the 14th of April, 1858, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Van Vechten and Miss Emma Melissa Humphrey. They had no children of their own but reared an adopted daughter, Mary, who is now the wife of Judge Merrit W. Pinckney, of Chicago. Mrs. Van Vechten has always taken a deep and helpful interest in philanthropic and charitable work and in this had the cooperation of her husband. He was interested in all that tended to prove helpful to the individual and the city, and his labors for the public good were of the most practical character. He was ever courteous and kindly, enjoying the highest respect and esteem of all, while the circle of his friends was coextensive with that of his acquaintances. His activities were manifold.

"He was not an onlooker," said the Cedar Rapids Daily Gazette, "but a worker and organizer in the great national life that was being developed all around him, soberness of thought, industry, thrift and faithful perseverance, all of these qualities came to him by birth and in him grew to an ultimate perfection such as is seldom found in any one man. Cedar Rapids was the scene of his life's best and most helpful work. Mr. Van Vechten never touched anything that failed. What he did he did well and all his undertakings thrived and grew greater with the years. Moreover, he was the guiding hand for many a young man struggling upward in life and he wisely counseled many who needed advice." As he prospered he gave generously for the benefit of others, placing liberal means in the hands of his wife, that she might carry on benevolent and philanthropic projects. He asked no praise, he sought no recognition for his good deeds, but they were many and the world is better and brighter because of the life that he here lived. He reached the venerable age of eighty-two years and quietly passed from this life on the 29th of September, 1909. Of him it may be written:

Of no distemper, of no blast he died,  
But fell like autumn fruit that mellowed long,  
E'en wondered at because it fell not sooner,  
Age seemed to wind him up for four score years,  
Yet slowly ran he on two winters more,  
Till like a clock, worn out with beating time,  
The wheels of weary life at last stood still.

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#### WILLIAM O. GOUDY

A well improved farm of one hundred and thirty-five acres located in Linn township, has been the home of William O. Goudy since 1877, though it has been in possession of the family since the early development of Linn county. He was born on his father's farm on section 23, Linn township, November 15, 1853, his parents being John C. and Amelia C. (Jordan) Goudy, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Germany. The mother emigrated from her native land to Iowa in 1842 and that year also witnessed the arrival of the father in this state. They were married here five years later, on the 18th of November, 1847, and began their domestic life upon a farm on section 23, Linn township. Unto them were born seven children, Ellen A., Rachel E., William O., Alice A., Mary E., Fred-





erick A. and John M. All are living with the exception of Frederick, who died on the 8th of July, 1905. After a happy married life covering sixteen years, Mr. Goudy was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, whose death occurred in March, 1863. He was married a year later, his second union being with Lydia A. Moffitt. He continued to reside on the farm which he owned until 1890, when he removed to Mount Vernon and lived retired until his death, which occurred September 18, 1905, while his wife passed away in 1903. They were members of the Presbyterian church.

William O. Goudy, the subject of this sketch, remained on the home farm to the age of twenty-four years, during which time he assisted his father in the work of the fields in the summer season, while in the winter months he pursued his studies in the common schools. At that age he began farming on his own account, by renting land of his grandfather. He operated the place as a renter until 1891, when he purchased the land, comprising one hundred and thirty-five acres, and this has been his home to the present time. He has made modern improvements on the place since it came into his possession and now has one of the valuable farm properties of that section of the county. His fields produce abundantly and in his pastures are found good grades of stock. He is careful as to details and his capable management is bringing him gratifying success.

On the 21st of March, 1878, occurred the marriage of Mr. Goudy and Miss Alice Armentrout, who was born September 11, 1855, a daughter of Abden and Ann (Shoop) Armentrout, natives of Virginia and Maryland, respectively. The father was a carpenter by trade and coming to Linn county in 1869 settled in Franklin township, where he worked at his trade until his death, which occurred in 1875. The mother afterward lived with her children and she passed away in September, 1909. They were the parents of five children, all of whom survive, namely: Cordelia C., Frank, Alice, Harry and Lizzie.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Goudy has been blessed with three daughters and one son. Edna A., who was born January 17, 1879, is the wife of Jesse Miller, their home being in Cedar county, this state, and they have a family of five children, Erhmel C., Glenn V., Lucile E., Genevieve A. and Isabel. Edith C., who was born December 16, 1884, is the wife of William Stewart. Carleton A., whose birth occurred November 9, 1889, and Laura H., who was born July 21, 1895, are both at home. All were educated in the common schools.

Although Mr. Goudy is not active in public affairs, he keeps well informed on the political issues and questions of the day and never hesitates in giving his allegiance to the republican party for he believes its principles contain the best elements of good government. He and his wife belong to the Presbyterian church. Spending his entire life in this county, he has materially aided in its progress, especially along agricultural lines and is now classed among the men of affluence in his locality.

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#### NATHAN ALBERT YORK, M. D.

Dr. Nathan Albert York, who since April, 1900, has enjoyed a lucrative and constantly growing patronage as a medical practitioner of Lisbon, was born on the 11th of March, 1866, near the town of Meaford on the Georgian Bay in Grey county, Ontario, Canada. He is the youngest son of Henry York, who was born in the town of Long Buckby, Northamptonshire, England, early in the nineteenth century and assisted in celebrating the victory of Wellington at Waterloo, where two of his uncles, George and Samuel Dickens, gave up their lives in that great and decisive battle against Napoleon. Frederick York, the paternal grandfather of our subject, owned and operated a cord and rope factory at Northampton.



England. The paternal grandmother, Sarah Dickens, was a graduate of Oxford University in England and a relative of the illustrious author of that name. Jacob and Hannah (Devons) Prentice, the maternal grandparents of Dr. York, were of German stock and settled in the state of New York about 1815. Later they located on a farm which has since become a part of the city of Toronto, Canada, and which was the birthplace of the mother of Dr. York, who there grew to womanhood in a family of six sisters and seven brothers. Two of her brothers, Oliver and Hiram Prentice, enlisted in the United States army and were killed in the Civil war.

Henry York, the father of the gentleman whose name introduces this review, had a family of four sons and four daughters, all of whom still survive with the exception of two daughters. The record of the living children is as follows: Dr. Nathan A.; Thomas H., of Chicago; Waldo M., who is a resident of Cobalt, Ontario; Levi Charles, who makes his home in Vancouver, British Columbia; Mrs. Samuel Stevenson, who resides in Miami, Manitoba, Canada; and Mrs. George Wilton, of Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, Canada.

Dr. N. A. York spent the early years of his life in the town of his nativity, his parents there owning a fruit farm. About the year 1884 his father sold the farm, purchasing and locating upon an extensive tract of land west of Winnipeg. After leaving school Dr. York succeeded in obtaining a practical business course and became identified with commercial and real-estate interests in his community. He remained an active factor in the business life of Morden, Canada, until October, 1894, when he came to Iowa City, Iowa, and after two years of special study entered the medical department of the State University of Iowa in September, 1896. At the end of two years' study he was advised by the late Dr. W. D. Middleton, then chief surgeon and dean of the faculty, to take an examination before the state board of medical examiners. This he did in December, 1898, and succeeded in securing a certificate to practice medicine. During the vacation periods of the following two years he was associated in practice with Dr. John Clinton Shrader, president of the state board of health and a professor and surgeon of the university for twenty years. In March, 1900, he completed the first four-year course required by the university and was graduated with the degree of M. D. The following April he located for practice in Lisbon, Linn county, Iowa, which place has since remained the scene of his professional labors. He is continually broadening his knowledge and thus directly promoting his efficiency through the interchange of thought and principles that come to him as a member of the Southeastern Linn Medical Society, the Linn County Medical Society, the Iowa Union Medical Society, the Iowa State Medical Society and the American Medical Association.

On the 2d of January, 1890, Dr. York was united in marriage to Miss Tacie Elizabeth Markel, of Springdale, Cedar county, Iowa, who was at that time living with her sister in Canada. She is of German extraction and her paternal great-grandparents were the founders of Markelsville, Pennsylvania, whence her grandparents removed to Toronto, Canada, and for many years were engaged in the milling business. In the year 1860 they took up their abode in Cedar county, Iowa, and purchased the farm which is still occupied by the father of Mrs. Tacie E. York, who there reared his family of two sons and seven daughters, all of whom are now well situated in homes of their own. Dr. Isaac McCormack, the maternal grandfather of Mrs. York, was a graduate of the medical department of the University of Edinburg, Scotland, and spent his life in medical practice in his native land. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Tanner, was a native of County Armagh, Ireland, and was likewise educated at Edinburg. Unto Dr. and Mrs. York have been born three children, namely: Ethel Harriet, Alton Melvin and Everett Lorren.





As a citizen Dr. York has always stood for honesty in all dealings and is a persistent advocate of high moral standards in his community. He has taken an active part in educational matters and his energies have always been directed toward the improvement of school conditions and educational standards. For five years he has served as a member of the board of education and has acted as its president a part of the time. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons and and the Modern Woodmen of America. In early life he became a member of the Christian church but there being no organization of that denomination in Lisbon, he joined the United Brethren church with his family. He has established for himself a comfortable home and a well equipped office and in the discharge of his professional duties is ably assisted by his wife, whose rare natural and acquired ability in this line of work is greatly appreciated by many of the doctor's patrons. By his labors, his high professional attainments and his sterling characteristics Dr. York has justified the respect and confidence in which he is held by the medical fraternity and the local public.

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### JOSEPH N. DEWEES

From the pioneer period to the present Joseph N. Dewees has been almost continuously a resident of Linn county, his birth having occurred in a log cabin in Brown township, on the 20th of December, 1858. His parents, William P. and Maria (Embree) Dewees, were natives of Ohio, where they were reared and married, and in 1853 came to this county, settling in Brown township about three miles east of Springville on the farm which is now owned by John Carbee. There the father built a log cabin and from time to time he added to his place until he became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land which he brought under a high state of cultivation. Later in life he rented this farm and made his home with his son Joseph up to the time of his death, which occurred on the 24th of September, 1901. He had long survived his wife, who died on the 27th of September, 1882. They were members of the Society of Friends and were consistent Christian people whose many excellent traits of character endeared them to all who knew them.

Joseph N. Dewees was reared at home, acquiring his education in the Friends select school. In the fall of 1878 he and his brother Isaac went to Kansas, purchasing eighty acres of land in Osage county, which they owned for a few months and then sold. They drove to the Sunflower state with a company, the wagon train being composed of several teams. When twenty-one years of age he secured a position as a butter maker in a creamery in Cherokee county, where he remained for a year. He was then married on the 12th of December, 1880, to Miss Lucetta Vernon, of Brown township, and after his marriage superintended the creamery at Williams Corners in Brown township for one summer. He then took up his abode upon the home farm and engaged in cultivating his father's place for four years. In 1885 he and his brother Isaac went to Turner county, South Dakota, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, which they farmed for two years. They then sold out and went to California, Joseph N. Dewees remaining in the southern part of that state for a year, after which he returned to Linn county. He then purchased forty acres of land adjoining the old home place, took up his abode thereon and not only cultivated his own farm but also a portion of his father's land for several years. He lived upon that place for nine years and in 1898 purchased his present farm of one hundred and ninety-two acres on which he has since resided. He has one of the well improved and valuable properties of Linn county. None of the accessories and conveniences of the modern





farm are lacking and the equipment of the place indicates the practical methods and progressive spirit of the owner.

Mrs. Dewees' parents were Joseph S. and Rachel (Bingman) Vernon, natives of Morgan county, Ohio. She was about five years of age when her mother died and her father passed away in 1881. Her only brother is Clarence B. Vernon, who lives in Kuline, Wyoming, but her only sister, Floretta Vernon, died in 1877, at the age of eighteen years. Her father served for three years in the Civil war, being a member of the Twenty-fourth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Dewees have been born four children. Frank Leroy, now a student at Hahnemann Medical College of Philadelphia, was married on the 21st of July, 1910, to Edna L. Embree, a daughter of Samuel and Mary Ann Embree, of Springville. Ernest J. is attending a Friends boarding school at Westtown, Pennsylvania, and after his graduation also intends to enter a medical college. Jessie M. and Mildred R. are both at home.

Mr. Dewees and his family are members of the Society of Friends and are prominent socially in the community where they reside. In his political views he is a republican, having supported that party since attaining his majority, but he has never sought nor desired office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs, the capable management of which has won him substantial success.

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#### GEORGE DRIPS

George Drips is the owner of extensive farm property, well equipped for agricultural pursuits, his possessions embracing five hundred and forty acres, and he at one time owned about fourteen hundred acres of rich Iowa land but has given much of his property to his children. He has lived in Linn county since 1854, covering a period of fifty-six years, and from that time to the present he has been actively connected with the agricultural development of this section of the state. He was born in Licking county, Ohio, February 27, 1836, a son of Isaac and Elizabeth (Myers) Drips, who were likewise natives of the Buckeye state, the former born in 1810, and the latter on the 14th of September, 1814. They spent their entire lives in Ohio, there rearing a family of ten children, of whom six are still living. The father has been dead many years, his death occurring September 17, 1769, when he was fifty-nine years of age, while the mother surviving for a long period, was called to the home beyond in February, 1900, having reached the advanced age of eighty-six years.

George Drips, the eldest in his father's family, acquired his education in the schools of Licking county and there remained to his twentieth year. He then sought the broader opportunities of the rapidly developing middle west and accordingly, in 1854, started on his journey with a good team and wagon, which were his only possessions, his destination being Linn county. He here purchased ninety acres of land, which his father had previously owned, paying him twelve dollars per acre. On the place stood a log cabin, in which he took up his abode and which continued to be his home for eight or nine years. This property proved the nucleus of his later possessions. In due time he made substantial improvements and placed the land under a high state of cultivation so that rich crops each year rewarded his labors. This brought him the means that enabled him from time to time to purchase more land and he thus added to his holdings until his possessions embraced fourteen hundred acres in Linn county. He has, however, been generous with his children, having given to them between seven and eight hundred acres of land. He still retains possession of five hundred and forty acres, all of which is located in Linn township. This land is all tillable



and on the place stands a fine country residence, in the rear of which are good barns and outbuildings. His property is valuable and worth many times the price he paid for his first possessions. In addition to his home place he owns eight acres of land located within the corporation limits of Springville. In connection with general farming Mr. Drips makes a specialty of stock-raising and this has added not a little to his success.

Mr. Drips has been married twice. His first union was with Miss Mary E. Dunn, who was born in Guernsey county, Ohio, in 1834, a daughter of John and Helen Dunn. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Drips were born eight children, four sons and four daughters, namely: Frances E., who became the wife of Frederick Martin of Linn county but is now deceased; Wealthy J., the wife of John Barner of this county; John I., also living here; Olive, the wife of Fred Ilginfritz, of Linn county; George Walter, a resident of this county; Maggie M., the wife of Charles Wood, their home being in Linn county; Joseph S., also living here; and Charles, who has departed this life. The wife and mother was called to the home beyond on the 6th of August, 1894, when in her sixtieth year. Mr. Drips was married September 16, 1896, to Miss Elizabeth M. Dunlap, who was born in Licking county, Ohio, March 18, 1865, a daughter of William and Mary (Hunter) Dunlap, the former a native of Virginia, and the latter of Ohio. They died in the latter state. Mrs. Drips was the youngest in a family of nine children, of whom seven still survive, and by her marriage she became the mother of a son and daughter but both died in infancy.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Drips belong to the Christian church and he has in his possession the family Bible of his grandfather over one hundred years old. Mrs. Drips is a member of Eastern Star Lodge, No. 407, at Springville, of which she is associate matron. In politics he is a democrat but not active in public life. In his early years Mr. Drips persevered in the pursuit of an honest purpose and today, crowned with wealth, he stands in the same relation to his fellowmen as he did when struggling for a livelihood, recognizing and appreciating honest purpose and genuine worth and rating the individual by his merits and not by his possessions. Throughout his career his duties have been performed with the greatest care and business interests have been so managed as to win him the confidence of the public and the prosperity which should always attend honorable effort.

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#### ELMER D. NEAL

There are few men whose lives are crowned with the honor and respect which is universally accorded to Elmer D. Neal, but through a connection of almost six decades with Linn county's history his has been an unblemished character. With him success in life has been reached through honorable dealing, for he has never deviated from what his judgment would indicate to be right and honorable between his fellowmen and himself. As agriculture has become a source of great profit in the state of Iowa, he has accumulated land until he is now one of the most extensive owners in Linn county.

Born on a farm in Linn township, his natal day was May 4, 1850. His father, Chauncey Neal, was born in New York and was one of a family of five children, being the second in order of birth. The others were Arvilla, Horace, Rosanna and Ira, all now deceased. The father in his early manhood sought the broader opportunities of the new and rapidly developing middle west and in 1839 located in Linn county. Here he was married a few years later, on the 27th of January, 1846, to Miss Jane Clark, who was born in Ohio and in 1839 came to Linn county, where she became acquainted with her future husband. They began their do-





mestic life upon a tract of sixty acres, which Mr. Neal entered from the government, and he thus became identified with the agricultural interests of Linn township. He at once began to develop and improve his new farm and soon made a comfortable home for himself and family, while the fields returned him rich crops each year. It was on this place that four children were added to the household, namely: Ira O., who is deceased; Elmer D., of this review; Mary M., the wife of A. J. Reid; and Henry E., also of Linn township. There Mr. and Mrs. Neal labored earnestly and perseveringly until 1874, when the place was traded for one hundred and sixty acres on section 16, Linn township. Later he added forty acres through purchase and thus his possessions embraced two hundred acres in Linn township. He made many improvements thereon and continued its cultivation until the time of his death, which occurred on the 24th of February, 1887, when he was well advanced in years. The mother survived for a few years and died on the 17th of December, 1890.

Elmer D. Neal, the second in order of birth in his father's family, was reared upon the home farm and upon him devolved much of the arduous task of carrying on the work, giving his father the benefit of his labor until he reached mature years. He then started out in life on his own account and purchased eighty-seven acres of land, which forms a portion of his present holdings. He met with success through the cultivation of his first land and accumulated the means that in 1881 enabled him to purchase one hundred acres in Franklin township. In 1886 he bought an adjoining tract of one hundred and sixty acres, while in 1893 he added eighty-five acres, in 1899 still another tract of one hundred and twenty acres and in 1905 purchased twenty acres, so that his possessions now comprise five hundred and seventy-two acres, all of which is well improved and under a high state of cultivation. He occupies a nice country home, in the rear of which are substantial outbuildings arranged with a view to convenience, and everything about the place is kept in the best condition. His fields return golden harvests, while in his pastures are seen fine grades of stock, for he has always made a specialty of raising stock, feeding all the grain he raises. In addition to his home place he had one hundred and fifty-seven acres which he deeded to his sons, thus giving them a start in the business world. He has been continuously identified with farming interests in Linn county and is now numbered among its representative citizens.

On the 4th of January, 1874, occurred the marriage of Mr. Neal and Miss Amanda E. Hoover, a daughter of Benjamin and Sarah A. (Bressler) Hoover, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, the former born in Dauphin county, April 17, 1827, and the latter in Cumberland county on the 16th of August, 1829. In early life they accompanied their respective parents to Linn county, the year 1847 witnessing their arrival here. Both the Hoover and Bressler families located in Franklin township and it was in this section of the state that Benjamin Hoover and Sarah Bressler were married, their wedding being celebrated on the 20th of August, 1848. They took up their abode in Linn township and the father was employed in various ways until 1861, when he rented a farm which he operated for two years. He then purchased one hundred and thirty acres, whereon he made his home until 1882. In that year he removed to Lisbon, where he lived retired until his death, which occurred February 1, 1897. His wife preceded him to the home beyond, passing away April 10, 1896. They became the parents of four children: Christly, who is deceased; Mary C., who has also departed this life; Amanda E., now Mrs. Neal; and Elizabeth E., the wife of Robert Oxley of Marion.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Neal has been blessed with three sons and one daughter. Edgar D., who is mentioned elsewhere in this work, is married and lives in Linn township. He was graduated from the commercial department of Cornell College at Mount Vernon. Burt H., who also pursued a similar course





in that institution, is also married and lives with his parents, assisting his father in his farm work. Benjamin C., who was accorded educational advantages in Cornell College, is married and resides in Franklin township, Linn county. Mabel A. is the wife of C. M. Wickham, a resident of Linn township.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Neal has given his political support to the democratic party but has never cared for public office, preferring to spend his time in the pursuit of his private affairs. That he recognizes and utilizes opportunities and possesses keen foresight is indicated by the vast acreage which he has accumulated. His advantages in youth were not unlike those of the average farmer boy but to his firm purpose and laudable ambition may be attributed his success. The ideals of men like this, their personality, the history of their lives and their profound sense of integrity could be made the text of a lesson from which the young men of today could study success.

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### JOHN B. LEIGH

John B. Leigh, one of the honored pioneers and representative citizens of Linn county, was born in Butler county, Ohio, September 3, 1834, a son of Foster W. and Sarah (Busenbark) Leigh, both of whom were natives of New Jersey, though they were married in the Buckeye state. His paternal grandfather was Daniel Leigh, who came to this country from England. During the early settlement of Ohio Mrs. Leigh accompanied her mother on her removal to that state, her father, John Busenbark, being at that time a soldier in the continental army, for the Revolutionary war was then in progress. On leaving the service he joined his family in Ohio, where he made his home until his death. Our subject was only four years of age when his parents removed with their family to Montgomery county, Indiana, where they made their home until 1851, and then came to Iowa, locating on a farm near Linn Grove. Here the father secured two sections of land, but later disposed of one-half of it to a friend. Beside this property he owned about four hundred acres, on which he located and continued to operate until his death. On coming to the county he purchased over twelve hundred acres of land for eighty-seven cents per acre, securing this through soldiers' land warrants. He was actively identified with the early development of this region and both he and his wife died on the old home farm. In their family were nine children, namely: Charles, a farmer of Franklin township; Isaiah, deceased; John B., of this review; Phoebe Jane, the deceased wife of Josephus Ballord; Eliza Ellen, the widow of P. M. Stinger and a resident of Linn Grove; Sarah, the deceased wife of Nathan Ballord; Mary, the wife of A. M. Walling, of David City, Nebraska; Foster, a resident of Mount Vernon; and one daughter who died in infancy.

Accompanying his parents on their removal to Linn county in 1851, John B. Leigh has since been prominently identified with her interests. Throughout his active business career he followed the occupation to which he had been reared — that of farming — and owned eight hundred acres of land two miles north of Mount Vernon in Franklin township, but has since disposed of one hundred acres, retaining the remainder of this property to the present time. Feeling justified in retiring from active labor, he removed to Mount Vernon about twenty years ago and here he has since made his home, having built a beautiful residence on Main street, adjoining the Cornell College campus to the east. Land which he bought for from thirty-five to forty dollars an acre is now worth two hundred dollars per acre, owing to the rise in land values and the extensive improvements which he has placed upon it. In connection with general farming he devoted considerable attention to the raising and feeding of stock and in both undertak-



ings he met with excellent success. For the past eight years, however, he has been practically an invalid and has not been able to engage in any business.

Mr. Leigh was married in 1854 to Elizabeth Busenbark, a distant relative and a widow of his brother, Isaiah. She was born, reared and educated in Indiana. Though having no children of their own Mr. and Mrs. Leigh have cared for and reared five who needed homes.

Since casting his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont Mr. Leigh has been a staunch supporter of the republican party and while living on his farm served for twenty years as school treasurer, during which time he handled about one hundred thousand dollars in school funds. He also served as township trustee and filled other minor offices to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. During his residence in Mount Vernon he served for twelve years as a member of the town council. He is a member of the Presbyterian church and has contributed generously toward the erection of both the Presbyterian and Methodist Episcopal churches in Mount Vernon, serving on the building committee of both organizations. He was also a member of the board of trustees of Cornell College for a number of years and during his active life was connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Having for almost sixty years been a resident of this county, he has witnessed its entire growth and development and materially assisted in its upbuilding and progress. During the early days he assisted in raising many a log house and was considered an expert on notching the corners. In those early days Muscatine, fifty miles away, was their nearest market and it usually required two days to make the trip. Dressed hogs were then sold for two and a half dollars per hundred, while wheat brought only thirty-five cents per bushel and oats about twenty-five cents. At that time horse thieves and other robbers were very numerous and there were many hardships and privations to be endured. Wild game was also plentiful, including turkeys and deer, and one can look back with pleasure on those early days.

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#### CHARLES I. McSHANE

A well improved and valuable tract of one hundred and fifteen acres in Linn township, Linn county, pays tribute to the labors of Charles I. McShane, who is one of the most enterprising and progressive farmers of this section of the state. He is a native of the county and a son of Jacob and Mary (Wilyerd) McShane, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, whence they emigrated with their respective parents to Linn county, Iowa. It was in this county that their marriage occurred in 1851, after which the father purchased land and located on a farm. He eventually disposed of his first purchase and bought a farm in Linn township, on which he made his home until his death, which occurred in June, 1908. The mother survived him for only a brief period, being called to her final rest on the 1st of January, 1910. They were buried in the cemetery at Springville. They were devoted and consistent members of the Baptist church and their lives were in harmony with their professions. They were identified with the interests of Linn county throughout a long period and were numbered among its most worthy and respected citizens. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jacob McShane were born ten children: Mrs. Alice Starry, a resident of Chicago; Lowell, of Iowa; Henry, a resident of Nebraska; Emma, John and Porter, all residing in Linn county; Charles I., of this review; Frank I., who is mentioned elsewhere in this work; Mrs. Eveline Perkins, also of Linn county; and Sadie, who died in infancy.

Charles I. McShane was reared to the occupation of farming, assisting his father in the work of the fields from the time of early spring planting until the crops were harvested in the autumn, and during the winter months he pursued his



studies in the district schools near his father's home. He remained under the parental roof until he had reached the age of twenty-eight years and then rented a tract of land, which he operated for two years. His first purchase consisted of ten acres in Linn township, which forms the nucleus of his present holdings, now amounting to one hundred and fifteen acres. He has made all the improvements on the place, including a comfortable country residence, substantial barn and outbuildings and no convenience usually found on a model farm is here lacking. He is engaged in raising the various cereals best suited to soil and climate and in the pursuit of his labors uses the latest improved machinery, while he follows the methods of farming conducive to best results.

Mr. McShane chose as a life companion Miss Letta J. Higgins, their marriage being celebrated on the 6th of March, 1896. She is a graduate of the Springville high school and is a daughter of Michael and E. (Johnson) Higgins, both natives of Ohio who came to Linn county in the early period of its development, locating here when the homes of the settlers were widely scattered and much of the land was still in possession of the government. The father entered a tract of land, to the cultivation of which he gave his attention for many years but, after the death of the wife and mother, December 25, 1885, he removed to Springville, where he has since lived retired. Mrs. McShane is the third in order of birth in a family of four children, the others being: Mrs. Milly Dunn, who lives in Linn township; Mrs. Irene Sterrit, of Texas; and Frank, who makes his home in Linn township.

Mr. McShane has supported the men and measures of democracy since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, although he has never been an office seeker. In religious faith he is a Presbyterian. He is a young man of laudable ambition and firm purpose, who has overcome every obstacle that has barred his path and is gradually working his way to the front among the citizens of worth in Linn county.

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#### MIKE LARSEN

Mike Larsen, devoting his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits in Brown township, was born in Denmark, October 29, 1873. His parents were Peter and Mary Larsen, also natives of Denmark, in which country the mother died. The father still survives and is yet a resident of his native land. In their family were fourteen children.

Mike Larsen, spending his youthful days in his father's home, attended the common schools and thus prepared for life's practical and responsible duties. He remained in his native land until nineteen years of age, when, imbued with a desire to better his financial condition, he made arrangements to come to the new world and in 1892 sailed for the United States, settling in Linn county, where he worked as a farm hand. It was thus that he made his start in life. Carefully saving his earnings he was at length enabled to engage in farming on his own account. In 1904 he rented land, which he occupied for three years, when he purchased a good tract of forty acres in Marion township, upon which he now resides. Since coming to the United States he has always given his time and energies to general farming and his broad experience and practical methods have constituted the basis of his success.

On the 4th of November, 1904, Mr. Larsen was united in marriage to Miss Amelia Voigt, who was born in Denmark in 1885 and is a daughter of Ferdinand and Mary Voigt, both of whom were natives of that country. They came to America in 1891 and, making their way to the interior of the country, settled in Linn county. The mother has now passed away but the father is still living. In





their family were seven children, which number included Mrs. Larsen, who by her marriage has become the mother of two sons, Frederick and Ivan.

In his political views Mr. Larsen is a republican and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, but never seeks nor desires office. He prefers to give his undivided time and attention to his business affairs and has made steady progress since coming to the new world, finding here the opportunities which he sought and which are bringing him substantial success.

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#### WILLIAM A. LACOCK

The agricultural interests of Linn county find a worthy representative in William A. Lacock, who is successfully following farming on a finely improved tract of land in Linn township. Born in Indiana, in 1849, he is the oldest in a family of four children whose parents were Joab and Elizabeth (Bassett) Lacock. The father was a native of Ripley county, Indiana, born January 15, 1823, and was reared and married in his native state, there remaining until 1854, which year witnessed his arrival in Linn county. He established his home on a farm in this section of the state and was thus identified with its farming interests until his death, which occurred on the 13th of June, 1893, when he was more than seventy years of age. He was a valued member of the Masonic order at Mount Vernon. Mrs. Lacock preceded her husband to the home beyond, her demise occurring in 1864. Their four children are: Abner, a resident of Linn township; Mercy, the wife of J. Kerns, a resident of Marion township, Linn county; Albert J., deceased; and William A.

The removal of the family from Indiana to Linn county was an event in the life of William A. Lacock, who was then a little lad of five years, and from that time to the present he has been a witness of the changes and progress that have here taken place as the years have come and gone. He acquired his education in the schools near his father's home and during the periods of vacation was assigned such tasks about the farm as usually fall to the lot of the farmer boy. As his age and strength increased with the passing years he assumed larger responsibilities and continued with his father until twenty-three years old. He then rented a tract of land, which he operated for four years, and at the end of that time purchased ninety-five acres in Linn township, which has been his home to the present time. He has, however, added a tract of forty-five acres, so that his possessions now embrace one hundred and forty acres. He has made many improvements on his farm, on which stands a nice country home and in the rear are good barns and outbuildings. Mr. Lacock is very methodical in carrying on his work, closely adhering to a systematic rule of crop rotation and studying the adaptability of certain crops to certain soils, so that good results follow his labors. He is a fancier of good stock and his farm animals are not only of the best grades but are kept in splendid condition.

It was in 1872 that Mr. Lacock established a home of his own through his marriage to Miss Nirah Mann, a daughter of Adam and Jennie (Whitlatch) Mann, both of whom were born in Pennsylvania, the former in Greene county, July 10, 1824, and the latter on the 27th of December of that year. They came to the middle west in 1837, settling in Jones county, Iowa, but after two years, in 1839, they made a permanent location in Linn county, where their remaining years were spent, the father passing away October 6, 1889, when he had reached the age of sixty-five years, while the mother, surviving for a long period, was called to her final rest on the 19th of October, 1904, when she had reached the advanced age of eighty years. They became the parents of eight children, four of whom are residents of Iowa, while the other surviving members reside in Kansas.



Two daughters and one son have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Lacock: Lizzie A., the wife of D. H. Strother, their home being in Mitchell, South Dakota; Leroy V., who is at home and who is now serving as township assessor; and Laura D., also under the parental roof. All were educated in the public schools and the son completed the high-school course and is now serving as secretary of the school board.

Mr. Lacock's study of the political questions and issues of the day has led him to give stalwart support to the republican party and for two terms he has filled the office of township trustee. He is diligent and determined and thus overcomes all the obstacles which bar his path. Gradually he has worked his way upward, and the means that he has employed in the attainment of prosperity are such as have won for him high regard and good will. In matters of citizenship he is loyal and cooperates in many measures that are factors for the general good.

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### JAMES M. PEARSON

James M. Pearson is the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land in Brown township, Linn county, to the cultivation of which he devotes his time and attention. He is a native of this township, born on the 1st of January, 1859, a son of Thomas and Mary (Eves) Pearson, who were natives of Ohio, whence they removed to Linn county in 1853. Here the father purchased a farm and established his home, being identified with agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career. Unto him and his wife were born nine children but two of the number are now deceased. The father died in 1903 but the mother still survives at the age of seventy-eight years and yet makes her home in Brown township.

James M. Pearson acquired his education in the common schools and assisted his father in the work of the home farm until he was twenty-six years of age and at that period in his life he established a home of his own by his marriage in 1885 to Miss Sarah M. Wild, who was born in Wisconsin, July 13, 1863, a daughter of David and Mary A. (Kay) Wild, the former a native of England and the latter of Wisconsin. Of their family of thirteen children, twelve are still living. The father makes his home in Springville but the mother is now deceased, her death occurring on the 31st of August, 1909.

Following his marriage Mr. Pearson located on a tract of land, which he rented and operated for three years. In the meantime he worked hard in the acquirement of a competence and at the end of that time was enabled to purchase eighty acres, on which he made his home for eighteen years. He then sold that land and invested his money in his present home farm, embracing one hundred and sixty acres, situated in Brown township. This land was partially improved when it came into his possession but he has since made many substantial improvements, and his place is now one of the attractive and valuable properties of this section of Linn county. He carries on general farming and in his work is meeting with very gratifying success.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Pearson have been born nine children, as follows: Alma B., who is a high-school graduate and is now engaged in teaching; Ethel May, who was also graduated from high school and is now teaching; Arthur Ray, who is a high-school student; Ralph K. and Helen Fay, at home; and Ora A., Albert J., Clarence L. and Harry B., all four deceased. The parents are deeply interested in the education of their children and in the schools of their locality, the mother having taught for several years prior to her marriage, while Mr. Pearson has served on the school board for almost fourteen years.



Mr. Pearson is a republican in his political views and affiliations and for the past four years has served as trustee of the township. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Pearson has spent his entire life in Linn county and is thoroughly identified with its best interests, being deeply interested in every movement or project that tends to better intellectual, social or moral conditions. He is a man of exemplary habits, strict integrity and honest purpose, and Linn county is proud to number him among her native sons.

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### CHRIS NIELSEN

Among the citizens whom the little kingdom of Denmark has furnished to the new world Chris Nielsen is numbered. He was born in that country, March 22, 1861, his parents being Niels and Marie (Stefison) Nielsen, both of whom are natives of Denmark, where the father is yet living. The mother, however, has come to this country and now makes her home with her son Chris. They were the parents of seven children and the family circle yet remains unbroken by the hand of death.

Chris Nielsen spent the first twenty-three years of his life in the land of his nativity, during which period he attended the public schools and was also trained to habits of industry, economy and perseverance. A laudable ambition led him to come to the new world in the hope that he might have better opportunity on this side of the Atlantic. Accordingly, when twenty-three years of age he crossed the briny deep and for eighteen months remained a resident of the state of New York. He then came to Linn county, Iowa, where he has since made his home, and was first employed here as a farm hand. He was not content to work for others, however, and as soon as possible started out independently and is now one of the prosperous and representative farmers of the county. He was employed, however, at farm labor up to the time of his marriage, which was celebrated on the 8th of April, 1890, the lady of his choice being Miss Wilhelmina Goodbla, who was born in Sweden in 1871 and is a daughter of Nels and Anna L. Goodbla, who were also natives of the same country. On coming to the United States they settled first in Cedar Rapids, where they lived for three years, and later took up their abode upon a farm in Marion township, while in 1900 they removed to Mitchell, South Dakota. Their family numbered six children.

At the time of their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Nielsen rented what was known as the Butler farm, upon which he still resides. He is now devoting his energies to the cultivation of five hundred and sixty acres of rich and valuable land, which responds readily to the care and labor he bestows upon it. In 1899 he purchased eighty acres situated on section 29, Brown township, and two years later he bought thirty acres more. Afterward he sold the property and invested in one hundred and sixty-nine and a half acres on section 27, Brown township. He makes a specialty of raising and feeding stock of all kinds and this branch of his business is proving very profitable. He is an excellent judge of stock, so that he makes judicious investments and profitable sales.

Mr. Nielsen votes with the republican party but has never held nor desired office. His fraternal relations are with the Knights of Pythias lodge at Springville and he and his wife are connected with the Pythian Sisters. Mrs. Nielsen holding an official position in the local organization. Unto them have been born three children: Clinton O., who was born January 27, 1892, and is now living in Cedar Rapids; Osie, who was born May 3, 1894, and is now a pupil of the high school at Springville; and Dolly V., who was born March 21, 1896. The family are members of the Presbyterian church and are well known in the locality where





they reside. Mr. Nielsen deserves much credit for what he has accomplished, as he started out in life on his own account and has steadily worked his way upward through determination, energy and capable management. That his labors have been effective is indicated by the excellent results which he has secured.

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### CHARLES V. POLLOCK

Charles V. Pollock, who is well known as a professional photographer of Marion, where he has been engaged in business since 1909, was born in Pennsylvania on the 9th of June, 1871. His parents, the Rev. M. M. and Mary J. (Drane) Pollock, who were likewise natives of the Keystone state, came to Linn county, Iowa, in 1886. The former preached the gospel at Fairfax for nine years, on the expiration of which period he took a congregation in Henderson county, Illinois, and remained its pastor for eight years. He then retired and moved to Little York, Illinois. His wife there passed away on the 27th of January, 1908, but he still survives her and has now attained the age of sixty-seven years. In June, 1910, he accepted a call as pastor of the United Presbyterian church near Albia, Iowa. Unto him and his wife were born nine children, six of whom are yet living, as follows: John L., a medical student at Memphis, Tennessee; Charles V., of this review; Jennie D., the wife of Harry Nesbit, of Albia, Iowa; Mabel M., who is engaged in teaching in the Albia city schools; Dr. D. K., of Galesburg, Illinois; and Carolyn P., of Albia, Iowa.

Charles V. Pollock supplemented his preliminary education by a course of study in Monmouth (Illinois) College. When nineteen years of age he started out in life on his own account, securing employment with the Deering Harvester & Reaper Works of Chicago and holding the position for two years. In 1901 he came to Marion, Iowa, and for three years worked on the staff of the Cedar Rapids Gazette. He next went to Alcedo, Illinois, where for four years he conducted a studio, after having become thoroughly familiar with the best processes of photography. On the expiration of that period, in 1908, he returned to Marion, where he has since successfully carried on his interests as a photographer, owning a well equipped studio.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Pollock has supported republican men and measures but has never sought office. He is an official member of the Methodist Episcopal church and is deeply interested in the Young People's Society and also in the Sunday school work. Fraternally he is identified with Trojan Lodge, No. 548, A. F. & A. M., at Marion, Iowa, and Maine Lodge, No. 643, I. O. O. F., at Cedar Rapids. A genial and kindly disposition has won him many friends and he has the regard and esteem of all with whom his business or social relations have brought him in contact.

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### EDGAR D. NEAL

Edgar D. Neal is one of the younger representatives of agricultural interests in Linn county, owning and operating a well improved farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Linn township. He has always resided in that township, where his birth occurred on a farm in 1875. He is the eldest in a family of three sons and one daughter, whose parents are Elmer D. and Amanda E. (Hoover) Neal, also natives of Linn township. The father, who was born on the 4th of May, 1850, is a prominent farmer of his section of the county, having extensive landed possessions. A complete sketch of the parents is given on another page of this work.



Their family numbers four children, namely: Edgar D., of this review; Burt H., who is married and lives with his parents; Benjamin C., who is married and resides in Franklin township; and Mabel A., the wife of Charles M. Wickham, of Linn township.

Edgar D. Neal after completing his studies in the district schools, pursued a commercial course in Cornell College at Mount Vernon, Iowa, from which he graduated, and then taught school in Linn county for two terms. Returning home, he remained there until twenty-five years of age, assisting his father in the work of the fields and the care of the stock. He then started out in life for himself by operating a rented tract of land for seven years, and at the end of that time purchased the farm which he had rented, it being his present home. The tract comprises one hundred and twenty acres and came into his possession in 1907. He is most enterprising and progressive in his work as is indicated by the splendid appearance of his place, for the buildings are kept in good repair, while the fields return rich crops for the care and labor which he bestows upon them.

It was on the 5th of December, 1900, that Mr. Neal wedded Miss Rhoda R. Lacoek, a daughter of Jacob and Christina (Stinger) Lacoek, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Linn county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lacoek have been born ten children, as follows: Charlie G. and Harvey, residents of Linn county; Marion, of Ottumwa, Iowa; Virgil, of Linn county; Flora A., deceased; Rhoda R., now Mrs. Neal; Robert and Irvin, of Linn county; Andrew, who is deceased; and one who died in infancy. The father died in 1892 but the mother is still living and makes her home on the farm in Linn county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Neal have been born three children: Harold E., who was born May 16, 1903, and died on the 23d of October of the same year; a daughter, who died unnamed; and Myron E., whose birth occurred October 19, 1909.

Following in his father's political footsteps, Mr. Neal gives his support to the men and measures of the democracy, and he and his wife attend the Presbyterian church. He is a young man of firm purpose and exemplary habits, fully sustaining the reputation that has always been borne by the Neal family.

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### MORGAN LOUIS INK

Morgan Louis Ink, one of the prominent and prosperous old settlers of Linn county, has resided here continuously for the past fifty-five years and has now attained the venerable age of eighty-five years. He is remarkably well preserved for one of his years and still supervises the operation of the Abby Creek Farm—a valuable tract of land comprising four hundred acres in Franklin and Linn townships. His birth occurred near Ithaca, Tompkins county, New York, on the 5th of November, 1825, his parents being Peter and Rhoda (Weathby) Ink, both of whom were natives of New Jersey. They were married in New York and the father was successfully identified with general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career. Both Peter Ink and his wife passed away in Knox county, Ohio, the former at the age of seventy-five years and the latter when about sixty years old. Their children were nine in number, namely: Abram, deceased; Morgan L., of this review; Hannah W., who wedded James Ball, by whom she had one child; Mary M., who is the widow of James Emberson and resides in Chesterville, Ohio; Henrietta, who died in early life; Adelia, who is the wife of William Hultz and resides in Dayton, Ohio; Diana, the deceased wife of Schiler Ball; and Henry and Raymond, both of whom have passed away.

Morgan Louis Ink spent the first ten years of his life on a farm in the place of his nativity and then went to Knox county, Ohio, with his parents, there re-



siding until the time of his removal to this county in 1855. On leaving the home farm in the Buckeye state he became identified with mercantile interests at Fredericktown, first securing a clerkship in the store of Hooker & Johnson. That firm sent him across the mountains to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, with twelve horses and while there he received a letter from Mr. Hooker requesting him to go to Philadelphia and invest the proceeds of the horse sale in goods and to buy under the name of Hooker & Ink. When our subject returned with the goods which he had purchased he became a partner of Mr. Hooker and for about seven years conducted a general mercantile enterprise as the junior member of the firm of Hooker & Ink. In the fall of 1855 he came to Linn county, Iowa, and opened a mercantile establishment at Mount Vernon, conducting business here for about eight years. His first place of abode was a log house, twelve by sixteen feet, on the main street of Mount Vernon. The store which he erected was the first brick business building in the town.

Owing to the depression in business resulting from the exigencies of war and caused to a degree by the wild cat currency then in circulation, Mr. Ink disposed of his mercantile interests in 1865 and traded his house in Mount Vernon for a farm of eighty acres situated one mile north of the town. As time passed by and his financial resources increased, owing to his indefatigable energy and good management, he extended the boundaries of his farm by additional purchase until it now embraces four hundred acres of rich and productive land on section 3, Franklin township, and section 32, Linn township. The first tract of land which he bought cost him twenty dollars an acre but values gradually increased and at the time of his last purchase he paid seventy dollars an acre. At the present date the land could easily be sold for two hundred dollars per acre. When he first took up his abode on his present fine farm the only building on the place was a small frame structure. The substantial brick barn which now stands upon the property was erected by him about twenty-five years ago and five years later he built his present handsome brick residence. His place, called the Abby Creek Farm from the fact that the Abby Creek runs through it, is one of the most beautiful and attractive country homes in his part of the county. There is a large spring of fine water and, damming the flow from this spring, he has made a pond covering about half an acre, which he has stocked with fish. It thus affords fine fishing in the summer and from it in the winter he cuts ice, for which he finds a ready sale in Mount Vernon and vicinity. Though now well advanced in years, he still gives his supervision to the work of the farm and his wife, whose faculties are also largely unimpaired, yet does her own housework.

On the 16th of September, 1853, in Huron county, Ohio, Mr. Ink was united in marriage to Miss Lucretia A. Johnston, who was born in New Haven, that county, on the 11th of November, 1830, her parents being John Wilson and Temperance (Andrews) Johnston. The father's birth occurred near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, while the mother was born in Southington, Connecticut. It was while on a visit to Ohio that Miss Andrews met and married John W. Johnston, who followed merchandising in the Buckeye state. Both passed away in Huron county, Ohio. Their children were three in number, as follows: Elizabeth, the deceased wife of Albert G. Stewart; Mrs. Ink; and John Wilson, who died at the age of thirteen years. The mother of this family, who passed away in her ninetyeth year, had been a widow for six decades.

Mr. and Mrs. Ink have three sons. Albert Worth, a wealthy agriculturist who is living retired in Mount Vernon, wedded Alice R. Plattner, now deceased, by whom he had three sons: Florin Louis; Wilbur Henry; and Dwight, who lost his mother in infancy and has since remained in the home of our subject. Clayton Melville Ink, living in Mitchell, South Dakota, married Miss Maud Hahn, by whom he has two sons, Maurice Leland and Donald Moore. Raymond Peter Ink is at home.





Politically Mr. Ink has ever been a staunch democrat, believing firmly in the principles of the party. The honors and emoluments of office have never had any attraction for him but he has served as the capable incumbent in several local positions, acting as township trustee, school director and road supervisor. He was made a Mason in 1856, joining Mount Vernon lodge, with which he has since been continuously identified and of which he is now the oldest member. He is also connected with the chapter. He was on the building committee at the time of the erection of the present Presbyterian church at Mount Vernon and was also instrumental in the construction of the previous edifice of that denomination. His wife is likewise a worthy and consistent member of the church. They have a very extensive acquaintance throughout the county in which they have resided for more than a half century and because of their upright and honorable lives are uniformly esteemed.

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### JAMES WILLIAM BUSENBARK

The Lawn View Farm, which comprises one hundred and seventy-nine and a half acres, located in Linn township, is owned and operated by James William Busenbark. It is also the place of his birth, which occurred December 30, 1861. He is the youngest in a family of four children born unto John and Agnes (Martin) Busenbark, who were natives of Ohio, while their respective parents were natives of Pennsylvania. The Busenbark family removed to Iowa in 1841, while the Martins came two years previously, in 1839. His maternal grandfather, James Martin, was the first settler in his part of the county, his farm being located four miles east of Marion near a creek which was later named in his honor, as were also a church and schoolhouse, both modern and up-to-date.

It was in this state that John Busenbark and Agnes Martin were married and unto them were born four children, namely: Lucy Ellen, the wife of B. F. Beach of Mount Vernon; Sarah A., who became the wife of W. H. Gilmore but both are now deceased, Mrs. Gilmore passing away September 7, 1893; Hannah Ann, the wife of J. P. Kepler, a resident of Nebraska; and James W., of this review. Both parents are deceased, the father passing away on the 9th of October, 1896, while the mother's death occurred September 2, 1900.

James William Busenbark acquired his education in the district schools near his boyhood home and remained under the parental roof to the age of twenty-two years, during which time he gave his father the benefit of his services on the farm. At that time he was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Ora E. Sandefer, and the date of their marriage October 17, 1883. She is the only living member in a family of five children, whose parents were John and Nancy (Humphrey) Sandefer, who were natives of Missouri, whence they removed to Illinois. It was while the family were residing in the latter state that the mother died on the 16th of June, 1869. The father was married on the 28th of January, 1872, to Amanda Berry, a native of Illinois, and in 1875 they removed to Linn county, Iowa. The father is still living on a farm in Linn township.

Following his marriage Mr. Busenbark rented the old homestead, which he operated for two years, and in 1885 removed to Storm Lake, Iowa. He purchased eighty acres of land near that city, operating the same for two years, when he disposed of the property and once more returned to the old homestead, which he rented until his father's death in 1896. At that time he inherited the property, comprising one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land. He has since made a purchase and his place now comprises one hundred seventy-nine and a half acres, all highly cultivated and known as the Lawn View Farm. Mr. Busenbark takes



great pride in keeping everything about the place in a neat and attractive appearance, while his fields return to him rich crops each year.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Busenbark have been born two sons. Merle John, who was born February 9, 1885, was educated in Cornell Academy at Mount Vernon and is now in Cedar Rapids. Earl C., who was born November 5, 1891, attended Cornell College at Mount Vernon and is now at home.

Mr. Busenbark gives his political support to the republican party and while he takes a deep interest in all projects of a public nature he has never been an office seeker. He and his wife and sons belong to the Methodist Episcopal church at Mount Vernon. While he has enjoyed advantages that many men are denied in the inheritance of a fine property, he is not spending his time idly, as this seems to stimulate him to greater effort and he is gradually working his way upward and undoubtedly his labors will bring him a rich reward.

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### HENRY P. GILLILAN

Henry P. Gillilan, who is now living retired in Viola, was born in West Virginia, on the 22d of August, 1845, his parents being Samuel and Elizabeth A. (Holloway) Gillilan, both natives of Virginia but pioneers of Iowa, becoming residents of Linn county in 1849. Here the father purchased land and erected thereon a log cabin of the primitive sort, covered with a clapboard roof and having a puncheon floor. In this dwelling the family lived for five years and at the end of that time a more pretentious residence was erected. Here the father died in 1874 and the mother, who long survived him, passed away January 1, 1901, at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. Unto this worthy couple were born seven children, namely: George D., deceased; Mary A., the wife of F. M. Shanklin, of this county; Jane R., deceased; Henry P., of this review; Ellen S., the wife of W. R. Peat, of Iowa; Pauline C., the wife of M. D. Peat, of Nebraska; and Luella K., of this county.

Henry P. Gillilan passed the days of his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm, early becoming familiar with agricultural pursuits and experiencing the hardships and privations of pioneer life. His education was acquired in the public schools of the neighborhood. Feeling that his country needed his services, at the age of nineteen he enlisted in Company L, Seventh Iowa Cavalry, and served for two years, participating in several engagements but never being wounded. He was then honorably discharged and mustered out at Sioux City, Iowa.

Returning home, Mr. Gillilan remained under the parental roof until his marriage, which was celebrated October 17, 1866. Miss Hattie Hodgkin, a native of Ohio, becoming his wife. Her parents were William C. and Margaret Hodgkin. Five children blessed this union, namely: Aurie E., the wife of E. J. Wilson, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Archie W., a resident of Sleepy Eye, Minnesota; Samuel D., of Stone City, Iowa; William H., of Cedar Rapids; and Nellie, at home. The mother of these children died on the 25th of November, 1902, and was laid to rest in the Wilcox cemetery. Mr. Gillilan was again married December 5, 1903, his second union being with Mrs. Ruth (Parsons) Bowdish, who was born in Jones county, Iowa, on the 10th of February, 1852, a daughter of Silas and Susan (Hazelwigg) Parsons. Her parents were natives of Kentucky and both are now deceased.

On starting out in life for himself Mr. Gillilan engaged in agricultural pursuits on rented land for a few years and then filled the office of deputy sheriff of Linn county for three years. As a republican he has taken a very active and prominent part in public affairs and is now serving his sixteenth year as township assessor. He served as deputy in the county clerk's office for thirteen months and



was guard at the penitentiary for eight years. However, the greater part of his life has been devoted to agricultural pursuits and he is still the owner of forty-two acres of land in Brown township besides his pleasant residence in Viola, where he now makes his home. He is an honored member of the Grand Army post at Springville and his wife holds membership in the Presbyterian church. He is a worthy representative of a well known pioneer family of this county and is now enjoying a rest to which he is justly entitled, for his life has been an upright and honorable one.

### WILLIAM PEARSON

The deserved reward of a well spent life is an honorable retirement from business in which to enjoy the fruits of former toil, and now after many years devoted to agricultural pursuits William Pearson has laid aside all business cares and is living retired in Springville. He was born on the 15th of June, 1832, in Belmont county, Ohio, of which state his parents, Jesse and Cynthia (Sinclair) Pearson, were also natives. It was in 1853 that the family came to Iowa and took up their abode in Brown township, Linn county, where the father purchased a tract of land upon which was a log house. As time passed he placed the fields under cultivation and continued the operation of his land until his death, which occurred in July, 1878. He had survived his wife for about four years, as she passed away in June, 1874. Their family consisted of seven children, but our subject is now the only one living. The parents were both members of the Friends church and were held in the highest esteem by all who knew them.

Until twenty-one years of age William Pearson remained at home, assisting in the arduous task of breaking land and cultivating the fields. On starting out in life for himself he entered forty acres of land on section 34, Brown township, and subsequently purchased eighty acres more, to which he later added a ninety-acre tract. In his farming operations he met with excellent success, having become thoroughly familiar with every department of farm work during his boyhood and youth. He is also a man of good business and executive ability and whatever he undertook he carried forward to successful completion. In 1894 he laid aside business cares and removed to Springville, where he owns a nice residence and is now enjoying the fruits of former toil. During his youth he learned the plasterer's trade, but the greater part of his active business life was devoted to farming. The common schools afforded him his early educational privileges and by reading and observation he has materially supplemented the knowledge acquired in the schoolroom.

Mr. Pearson was married on the 4th of September, 1853, to Miss Margaret A. Penn, whose birth occurred in Maryland, December 22, 1829, her parents being Reason and Aleatha (Redman) Penn, also natives of Maryland. It was in 1854 that the Penn family came to Linn county, Iowa, and located in Brown township, which was their home for many years. Mrs. Pearson's father died on the 18th of July, 1878, and her mother passed away December 2, 1877. They had a family of eight children. Mr. Pearson has been called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away April 15, 1909, leaving a family of three children, namely: John R., now a farmer of Jones county, Iowa, married Cynthia E. Thomas and their children are Mary, Cora, Geneva, Cleo and Leo. Lafayette H., a resident of Marion, married Clara M. Petty, a daughter of John and Lydia Petty of Linn county, but she died in 1907, leaving three children, Clarence E., Olive and Irene M. In 1908 he was again married his second wife being Nannie Allison. Cynthia A. is the wife of Thomas A. Yocom of Marshalltown, Iowa, and they have a son William Watson Yocom, a traveling salesman. Mrs. Pearson was an earnest and





faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the work of which she always took a very active and prominent part and her death was deeply mourned not only by her immediate family but by a large circle of friends as well. Her remains were interred in the Springville cemetery.

Mr. Pearson is also a Methodist in religious belief and is one of the leading members of the church at Springville, in which he has served as superintendent of the Sunday school for twenty-five years. He has also served as class leader and trustee and has been steward of the church for half a century. His upright, honorable life has commended him to the confidence of all with whom he has been brought in contact either in business or social relations and no man in the community is held in higher esteem. His success is attributable entirely to his own unaided efforts, for he started out in life empty-handed and made his own way through persistent, untiring effort and good business ability.

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### HARRY H. STINGER

There is much in the appearance of the farm of one hundred and sixty acres belonging to Harry H. Stinger that indicates the careful and progressive methods of the owner. He is one of the farmers of the younger generation who is recognizing and utilizing his opportunities as they are presented and is through this means gradually working his way to the front. He is a worthy representative of one of the pioneer families of this county, where his paternal grandfather settled at an early day, becoming owner of two thousand seven hundred acres of land in Linn township, some of which he purchased from the Indians at fifty cents per acre.

Our subject is a native of Linn township and the youngest of the five children born unto Phillip M. and Eliza (Leigh) Stinger, who spent the greater part of their lives in Linn county. The father followed farming throughout his active business career and at his death, which occurred November 21, 1906, he left to his family not only a valuable farm property but the priceless heritage of an untarnished name. The mother is still living on the old homestead farm in Linn township. The family record is as follows: George E.; Theodore E., who is mentioned elsewhere in this work; Carrie, who died in infancy; Alice, who died February 22, 1896; and Harry H., of this review. The record of the family is given fully in connection with the sketch of Theodore E. Stinger, elsewhere in this volume.

The family home, as above stated, was situated in Linn township and it was there Harry H. Stinger remained with his father until he reached mature years, having in the meantime pursued his studies in the district schools. When starting out to make his own way in the world he chose the occupation to which he had been reared and as time has passed he has accumulated a good property, comprising one hundred and sixty acres of land, on which stands a good country home and substantial barn and outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock. He has placed his land under a high state of cultivation, manifesting system and method in his labors. In addition to carrying on general farming he likewise raises good grades of stock and this has added not a little to his financial resources each year.

After he had attained years of maturity, Mr. Stinger was married to Miss Mary Nosley, who was born April 7, 1874, a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Porter) Nosley. Her father, who was born in Germany, December 20, 1830, served in the Civil war as a member of the Thirty-fifth Iowa Infantry under General Sherman. He did valiant service while at the front, taking part in a number of hard fought battles. He died in the faith of the Lutheran church.



March 15, 1895, at the age of sixty-five years. The mother is still living and resides in Linn township about five miles from her daughter, Mrs. Stinger. She is now seventy-five years of age, for her birth occurred August 11, 1835, the state of her nativity being Ohio. By her marriage she has become the mother of three children, her only daughter being Mrs. Stinger, the second in order of birth. The sons are Ervin J. and Oliver J., both residents of Linn county.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Stinger has been blessed with four children: Glenn S., who is a high-school student at Mount Vernon; Nellie F., at home; Valma P.; and Helen L. Mr. Stinger is a republican but is not active in public affairs, preferring to lead the quiet and uninterrupted life of the agriculturist. His fraternal relations connect him with Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 551, I. O. O. F., while both he and his wife attend the Methodist Episcopal church. They are people of highest worth and respectability, and their pleasant home finds favor with their numerous friends.

### JOHN P. GLASS

Mr. Glass was a typical American of seventy years ago — a man of rare native ability — born to cope with the problems of a new country. His life was eminently successful and one of honor and probity. He may be numbered among the early immigrants to this country, who, with fearless spirit and unyielding energy, successfully encountered the toils of the then western territory. He was a native of Pennsylvania, having been born on the banks of the Allegheny river, on Pike street in the city of Pittsburg, May 17, 1817.



His father, Alex Glass, a merchant and stock dealer, was of good old Scotch ancestry. His birth occurred in Donegal, Ireland, where he was reared and married, his wife bearing the maiden name of Isabel Devitt and being a descendant of Lord Devitt. Her brother, John Devitt, was mayor of Pittsburg in 1828. Among the family relics are letters written in Ireland during the famine, pleading for assistance from Alex Glass and his brother-in-law. A strange feature of these letters is that they are attested to by the rector of the parish. The bridal trip of Alex Glass and Isabel Devitt was a journey across the Atlantic, and after landing upon American shores they settled in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. Alex Glass there engaged in business and remained there until his death, which occurred in 1857. He was a man of great strength of character and held the different offices within the gift of his community. He had strong and decided opinions and never hesitated to give an honest voice to them. Politically he was a Jacksonian democrat and religiously a consistent member of the Episcopal church. He was a vestryman in the first Episcopal church built in Pittsburg. His wife was a woman of brave spirit and stood by her husband's side in all his undertakings, and after living together until a ripe old age was reached they gave up their lives with a consciousness that they had done their duty as good citizens, neighbors, parents and friends. The mother lived to the advanced age of more than one hundred years and died in 1882. They were the parents of ten children, five sons and five daughters, John P. being the fourth child. He was the only one who sought a home on this side of the Mississippi. One of the daughters became the wife of the great iron king of Virginia, S. H. Woodward. His sons are now rated as being the wealthiest men in Alabama — bankers and owners of the Birmingham smelters.

The early days of John P. Glass were passed on his father's homestead, where he lived until he became an apprentice to the carpenter's and joiner's trade. He



was always of an enterprising disposition, ambitious and industrious, and after completing his apprenticeship at the early age of seventeen years, he started out to see the country. He first proceeded to New York city by the Lakes, then turned his steps westward, visited Missouri, retraced his steps to Illinois and after a period of eight months sought the old homestead. After tarrying there for a time he again became a rover, setting out for the Lone Star state. The boat on which he was making the trip down the Ohio sank at Henderson and he went no farther.

At Beverly, Washington county, Ohio, he became interested in one of Ohio's beautiful and cultured daughters, Miss Eliza A. Dodge, and they were there married on the 11th of July, 1813. Mrs. Glass was born in Washington county, Ohio, on the 5th of July, 1817, her parents being Captain John and Mary Buckley (Stone) Dodge, natives of Massachusetts. Mrs. Glass was a descendant of Lord Peter Dodge, of Cheshire, England, who received a coat of arms from King Edward I in 1306; and John Dodge of Rotham (county of Kent), a lineal descendant of Peter Dodge, was granted a coat of arms by King Henry VIII in 1546. The old Dodge manor at Rotham remains to this day in a state of perfect preservation, with the arms chiseled in stone over the door. William Dodge was the first of the family to come to America, landing at Salem, Massachusetts, on the 10th of July, 1629. The father of Captain Dodge also bore the title of captain, obtaining it on account of being commander and owner of a number of whaling vessels plying the Massachusetts coast. The former gained his title on account of being a military man, serving at the time of the early settlement of Ohio to assist in protecting the whites from the Indians. The elder Dodge came to Ohio from Massachusetts on foot in 1795, built the first gristmill that was set running in the Buckeye state and a rude cabin for his family. He returned on foot and brought back his family in one of the first chaises taken into the territory of Ohio, General Putnam's chaise being the first. John Dodge, Jr., was then a lad of nine years. The Glass family have in their possession a piece of the stone of this mill, which ground the first flour in the state. They also have a pick that was used in dressing the stone, the handle of which is made from timber used in the construction of the dam whose waters turned the mill wheel. As may be supposed, these relics are highly prized.

In early life Mrs. Glass had the advantages of a thorough education, being a graduate of Granville Female Seminary of Ohio. This was supplemented with careful reading and reflection, until she became a woman of more broad and liberal culture than is often found among pioneer women. She was for years identified with and an exponent of the movement to secure women's suffrage, believing that the same rights and privileges accorded to man should be accorded to her own sex. She was a frequent contributor to various publications, in which she advocated these measures. She was of true Puritan stock. Her ancestors, William and Dorothy Bradford, came over in the Mayflower and performed no inconsiderable part in laying the foundation of our religious and civil liberty. She took a keen interest in anything pertaining to the early history of Washington county, Ohio, where the name of Dodge is still revered and held as a household word. She was a repository of the legends and sayings of private history that pertain to that historical region. She belonged to that class of women, now alas too few, whose strength of character, force of mind and gentleness of heart make us proud of American womanhood. She died February 21, 1890, mourned by a large family of grown up sons and daughters and a wide circle of admiring friends, both young and old. She was a consistent member of the Presbyterian church.

Soon after Mr. Glass' marriage to Miss Dodge they set out for Iowa, making their first halt in the little hamlet which is now Iowa City. In 1845 they purchased the farm where they lived and died. It originally consisted of nine hundred acres. In the fall of 1849 Mr. Glass learned that a man had started to Iowa





City to enter this land. Being determined to reach the land office first, he at once set out for Iowa City on foot, hiring David King to ferry him across the river in a canoe. There he found John Weare, who accompanied him the balance of the journey. King was induced to haul the canoe to Prairie Creek in order to ferry them across at that point. He reached the land office just as it was opened the next morning, presented his land warrants and to his great astonishment found they had not been properly transferred. So he at once took the back track for home, arriving at Prairie Creek just before night. The stream was very high and ice was rapidly forming. He swam to shore with his clothing tied to the top of his head. After being again ferried across the Cedar in almost a perishing condition he thawed out at the saloon kept by Harvey Higley on First street. The next day he traded warrants with Sidney Dodge and sent him by the way of Ivanhoe to have them entered. Mr. Glass watched the growth and development of the city of Cedar Rapids from a small hamlet of three little houses to its present population of over thirty thousand. He first entered into partnership with Sidney Dodge in the manufacture of fanning mills. Among the familiar names of men who were employed to construct the mills were Sam Johnson, Godfrey Quass, John Frazee, Aaron Frazee and John Ogan; and the peddlers of the machines were Horatio P. Smith, J. J. Nugent, Joe Butler, Harvey Higley, William Burge and John Johnson. Mr. Glass bought the first lumber cut at Cedar Falls — one hundred thousand feet of black walnut at nine dollars per thousand — and rafted it down the river, landing at a point near where the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific shops now stand. When the wind was favorable the trip was made in fourteen hours. The first trial case Judge Cook had was when some of this lumber was confiscated and he was employed to defend the case. Mr. Glass told some amusing incidents of his trips up and down the Cedar. On one occasion when he was driving up, he overtook a fellow traveler whose wagon, which was loaded with a stock of goods for a mercantile store, had broken down. Mr. Glass was commissioned to cart the goods the balance of the journey and was furnished with an inventory of the same. That night he found lodging with John Royal, the sheriff of the county. Before starting on his journey in the morning, he checked up his inventory and found a pair of boots missing. The lady of the house commenced turning over beds, chairs and tables in search of the missing boots. At this juncture the youngster of the household exclaimed: "Mam, you know Dad wore them boots after the cows." So he moved on, as the sheriff of the county had appropriated the boots to his own use. Another time when coming down the river they landed at what is now Vinton. That evening he attended election down on Spring creek. John Royal, "Doc" Buffin and John King were the judges. Mr. Glass had made it a rule of his life never to lose his vote. He therefore insisted upon it that he had a right to vote and did so. On the last trip he took with him five barrels of flour. He was indeed a welcome visitor, as the natives at Cedar Falls had been living on little else but turnips for three weeks. His raft of lumber he left frozen up in the river and that was the last that he saw of that ten thousand feet of black walnut. The old Glass farmhouse, which was quite a mansion in its day, is built out of the black walnut Mr. Glass rafted down the river. The following notice made its appearance at one time: "On the 25th or 26th of October, 1859, a \$1000.00 Chickering piano was stolen from the residence of Jno. P. Glass. Reward of \$15.00 will be paid for the recovery of the instrument and information that will lead to the conviction of the thieves." (signed) "L. H. Mason, sheriff of Linn Co., Iowa."

John P. Glass possessed an extraordinarily busy mind, his brain always devising new projects by which to advance his own interests, which he intended should also become identified with the welfare of the community around him. He accordingly investigated the northern part of Iowa, in the belief that the manufacture of woolen goods would be a wise investment for some of the ready capital



he commanded. He accordingly selected a site and began the construction of a woolen mill, which he operated for about thirty years. The first spinner was Johnson Lord. Customers came to the mill from as far west as Boone, as far south as Muscatine, as far east as Dubuque, and as far north as there were any white inhabitants. It was a great mystery to some of these old pioneers that in the absence of the proprietor, his wife (who was a college graduate) could write them a receipt. Its validity was often questioned, however, because it came from the pen of a woman. In later years many of these untutored subjects received a great blessing at her hands. She turned her primitive parlor into a schoolroom and old and young were admitted free of charge. The only compensation she received was a "rolling pin" and a silver dollar. Many a man who had passed the middle of life and could only sign his name with a "cross" she taught to read and at least legibly write his name. During the long years of the Civil war she conducted a regular bureau of correspondence for those who could not read or write.

In 1849 Mr. Glass purchased the town of Lafayette in Monroe township, which consisted of a postoffice and sawmill. He afterward sold the mill and the city with it to a Mr. Tripp. In 1855 he erected the first steam gristmill which was put up in the county. The mill stood a few rods from the site of his homestead and he operated it for about thirty years. In connection with these mills he built an immense sawmill in 1857, all of which were leveled to the ground by a cyclone in 1885. He spent the last years of his life in diversified farming and stock-raising. He was formerly a whig, but when the old party was abandoned and the new republican party was organized he became a staunch republican. He was no friend to pretentious merit, however numerous might be its proselytes. In early days the community in which Mr. Glass resided was strongly democratic—in fact of a rebel nature. When President Lincoln was assassinated the emblem of mourning was placed on the old mill door. The rebel host rode up on horseback and attempted to tear down the flag; but, quick as thought, the old mill whistle shrieked out, the frantic steeds dashed forth in a wild stampede and the black flag still waved. Mr. Glass was thoroughly acquainted with the laws of his country and never failed to abide by them. One of his favorite daughters once remarked that the greatest incentive she had to acquaint herself with the political issues was the pleasure it gave her father. He was ever identified with the educational interests of the community and for thirty years was president of the school board in his district. Mr. Glass came from a long-lived class of people, his mother attaining the age of one hundred and one years, his grandfather that of one hundred and seven and his great-grandfather that of one hundred and ten.

John P. and Eliza A. Glass were the parents of the following children. The eldest daughter, Annie Eliza, resided at home until her death on the 14th of August, 1896. Mary Isabelle, relict of John Murphy, has resided at the Glass homestead for the past twenty years. Selina Stone, the wife of Arthur A. Seagrave, a capitalist of Seattle, Washington, died in Portland, Oregon, in 1885. Harriet Melissa is the wife of Archibald Woodford and they are residents of Council Bluffs, Iowa, where Mr. Woodford is engaged in the printing business. Jasper Dodge, who wedded Miss Nancy Lane, has been engaged in farming and contracting for many years and still lives on the old home place. Sarah Alice is the wife of Frank Fuller, a farmer of Nebraska. Israel Osceola always lived at home and died in the house where he was born, his demise occurring on the 5th of September, 1909. He was married to Elizabeth Minor on the 12th of March, 1906. He was a well known railroad contractor, having built hundreds of miles of road in this and other states. He had laid out almost every addition to the city of Cedar Rapids and built the beautiful boulevard connecting Marion and Cedar Rapids. Below is a tribute paid to him by one of his sisters. Vesta Dodge is the wife of George Hartzell, a hotel man in San





Antonio, Texas. Mme. Hartzell has a rich soprano voice and is a gifted singer. She received her early vocal training in New York and Boston and devoted many years of unceasing study to the art, finally leaving her native land for sunny Italy, where she was fitted for the grand opera stage under the careful direction of the distinguished tenor, Sig. Ernesto Baldanza, at Bologna. Mme. Hartzell has sung for a number of years in concerts and grand opera, appearing with the Imperial Concert Company, the Liberati Band and the Trabelli Grand Opera Company. Mme. Hartzell's beautiful soprano voice attracted attention in the first years of her studies and the predictions of discriminating friends have certainly been fulfilled. Amanda Ellinora became the wife of William Jameson, who became secretary and treasurer of the United States Masonic Benevolent Association of Council Bluffs. He died in 1901. The youngest child, Eunice Alma, when a young lady was secretary and treasurer of the Western Mortgage Company of Cedar Rapids. She became the wife of P. C. Madison, a veteran conductor of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railroad, but now engaged in farming.

At his death John P. Glass left his estate in trust for a term of years with the youngest son, Osceola, and the youngest daughter, Eunice. Upon the death of Osceola Mrs. Madison became sole administratrix and is now handling the affairs of her father's estate alone. She is a prominent member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and a well known club woman, having served for a number of years on the state board of patriotic education. She was the first graduate of the Cedar Rapids Business College in April, 1881, and the year previous was graduated from Coe College. In the house she now occupies, which was then the home of her father, the first meeting of the Cumberland Presbyterian church in Linn county was held.

#### A SISTER'S TRIBUTE

To her brother, the late Israel Osceola Glass.

"Well, 'tis not a pleasant thing to fall asleep with all one's friends,  
To pass in silence from the paths of men."

Memory calls us back to a sleeping baby in the cradle of a Linn county pioneer home. The noble sire hails with joy the advent of another son, while the gifted mother declares a halo of light encircles his brow. When but a mere lad he assumes responsibilities of one many years his senior and the beautiful character today becomes a sacred memory. Time moves back and forth on its rusty hinges, until the finger on the dial plate points to a bright, handsome, attractive youth, who becomes a central figure in the social life of pioneer Cedar Rapids. He touched life at all possible points and lived nobly, possessing one of those substantial analytical minds that could separate the false from the true. He was a joy in the home — cheerful, brave, gentle and unselfish. A great financial wave sweeps over the land and Osceola returns from college, brushing away the tears of regret at the half finished education. His mother and seven sisters lean heavily upon the arm of a devoted son and brother. He makes a veritable heaven of the home he loved — his bright smile haunts us still. His charming hospitality beckoned all classes to that primitive parlor.

"The great fires of the chimney roared,  
The stranger feasted at the board."

Finally there hovers over the old home "the white winged messenger" and mother's soul takes its flight with these words upon her lips: "The greatest joy





of my life is that I lived to raise a son who never gave me an unkind word or an unkind look."

Ten years more and the noble sire joins her, leaving to the care and keeping of his companion and counselor, Oseie, the accumulations of a life-time. Fifty-seven years have now passed since the halo of light encircled the brow of the sleeping baby. Almost in the same spot where his mother received pain's only royal recompense—the crown of motherhood—the white winged messenger again beckons. In the grey of the morning Oseie summons friend and foe to his bedside, imploring their forgiveness for his shortcomings, while over dim and loving eyes death softly pressed the lids of rest and the princely character is clothed with the white radiance of eternity.

The rich and the poor, the high and the low, gather in vast concourse to drop a tear on the bier of the dead prince.

"How beautiful to live as thou did'st live,  
How beautiful to die as thou did'st die  
In moonlight of the night without a sigh.  
At rest, in all the best that love could give."

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### CHARLES EMMETT BATCHELDER

Charles Emmett Batchelder, the well known proprietor of the Springville Creamery, is one of Iowa's native sons, his birth occurring in Langworthy, Jones county, on the 27th of April, 1868. His parents were Albert and Harriet (Hunter) Batchelder, who were natives of New Hampshire and New York respectively. The father was a young man and the mother a young woman when they accompanied their respective parents on their removal to Iowa, and in Jones county the grandfathers of our subject both entered land near Langworthy, securing it at the government price of a dollar and a quarter per acre, as at that time the country was but sparsely settled, it being in the early '50s. Mr. and Mrs. Batchelder were married in Anamosa, Iowa, and shortly afterward located on a farm near Langworthy, where they continued to make their home until called to their final rest, the father dying in 1891 at the age of fifty-two years and the mother in 1906 at the age of sixty-two. He was a prosperous farmer, owning one hundred and twenty-four acres of well improved and valuable land, and in politics was a stalwart republican.

In the schools of his native county Charles E. Batchelder acquired a good practical education that well fitted him for teaching, which profession he followed after attaining his majority, teaching for seven terms during the winter months, while the summer seasons were devoted to farm work. It was on the 12th of June, 1895, that he was united in marriage to Miss Lucy M. Worster, a daughter of George and Frances (Boone) Worster, who came to Langworthy, Iowa, from New Hampshire at an early day in the development of this state. Being but five years of age when she lost her mother, Mrs. Batchelder was reared by her paternal grandfather, Selim Worster, at Langworthy. By her marriage she has become the mother of three children, namely, Lynn L., Frances I. and Nellie M., all attending the public schools of Springville.

For two years after his marriage Mr. Batchelder operated the farm belonging to his wife's Grandfather Worster and then removed to Martelle, Iowa, where he gained his first knowledge of the creamery business, becoming a copartner with a cousin, S. C. Batchelder. For four years they operated the Martelle Creamery alone and then purchased the Springville Creamery, operating both creameries and also a skimming station at Linn Grove. At the end of two years, however, they severed their business relations, our subject acquiring the Springville plant,



while his partner took the Martelle plant. The former is now one of the best equipped creameries in Linn county and makes more butter than any other individual plant within its borders. The success of this enterprise is due to the untiring efforts of Mr. Batchelder, who is regarded as one of the most progressive and energetic business men of the town. Politically he affiliates with the republican party and his fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, have called upon him to serve as a member of the city council for four years and as a member of the school board for the past six years. His fraternal relations are with Springville Lodge, No. 227, I. O. O. F., and Springville Camp, No. 3346, M. W. A.

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### ARTHUR H. WILSON

Arthur H. Wilson is one of the venerable citizens of Linn county. He has passed the eighty-second milestone on life's journey and for forty-five years of this time has lived in Iowa, so that he has witnessed much of its growth and development. He was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, May 7, 1828, a son of William and Sarah (Hara) Wilson, who were also natives of the Keystone state. They came to Iowa in 1864, settling in Brown township, Linn county, upon the farm where Arthur H. Wilson now resides. The father purchased one hundred and eighty-five acres of land and made the farm his home until he retired from active business life and removed to Springville, where his death occurred in 1881, when he was more than eighty-nine years of age. His first wife, however, survived her arrival in Iowa for but a brief period, passing away in 1866. Subsequently William Wilson married again, his second union being with Mrs. Sarah McAtee nee Johnston. Both the parents of A. H. Wilson were members of the Society of Friends and their many good qualities gained for them the high regard of all who knew them.

Arthur H. Wilson was reared under the parental roof. When a lad of ten years he accompanied his parents to Ohio, the family removing to that state in 1838. In the public schools there he mastered the lessons that usually constitute the public school curriculum and through the periods of vacation he worked in the fields and came to recognize the value of industry, economy and honesty as factors in the business world. On the 12th of January, 1855, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Green, of Washington county, Ohio, where his parents were living at that time, having removed to Ohio in 1838.

After his marriage Mr. Wilson began farming on his own account, residing in Ohio through the succeeding ten years, at the end of which time he came to Iowa in 1865. He located just outside the town limits of Springville on a small farm of eighty-three acres and there lived for five years, when he exchanged places with his father, who had grown old and wished to be burdened with less care and work than were required in the management and operation of his place. Since 1870, therefore, A. H. Wilson has resided upon the old homestead and has extended the boundaries of the place by additional purchase until he now has a farm of two hundred and forty-six and a half acres, all of which is valuable and desirable property. He has carefully superintended the cultivation of the fields and the improvement of the farm and it is now one of the attractive features of the landscape.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have been born five children, of whom four are yet living, namely: William C., who is engaged in the hardware business at Marble Rock, Iowa, wedded Mary E. Plummer of Springville and they have two sons, Clarence C. and Ralph A. Sarah J. is the wife of O. S. Johnston of Cedar Rapids and they have two daughters, Ethel M. and Clarice. Mary L. is the wife of W. H. McElhinny of Chillicothe, Missouri, and they have one daughter, Beryl.



Arthur, Jr., who is superintendent of the city schools of Aberdeen, Washington, married Sarah Durno of Springville and has one child, Edwin D.

Mr. Wilson has exercised his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party since its organization and believes firmly in its principles. He served for fifteen or twenty years as a member of the school board and the cause of education has ever found in him a warm friend. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church and for several years he served as an elder in the church. He also filled the position of road master for several years and was one of the organizers of the Brown Township Mutual Insurance Company and for several years served as president of that organization. He is one of the township's best known and most highly esteemed citizens and, although he is now eighty-two years of age, he is remarkably well preserved and looks many years younger. His has been an active, busy and useful life, which at all times has conformed to the highest principles of manhood and citizenship.

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### THEODORE E. STINGER

The Stinger family is an old and prominent one in Linn county, its members, having lived here since 1844, and Theodore E. Stinger of this review is one of its most worthy representatives. He was born here on the 20th of October, 1864. His grandparents in the paternal line were natives of Pennsylvania and were of Prussian ancestry. They were reared and married in the Keystone state but in 1844 sought a home in the middle west, their destination being Linn county. They located on a farm and from that time to the present the name of Stinger has been one well known in agricultural circles in this section of the state. Their family numbered four sons and three daughters, namely: Phillip M., Theodore A., Francis and Louisa, twins, Adaline, Mary and Andrew. Theodore and Andrew served in the Civil war, becoming members of Company F, Twenty-fourth Iowa Infantry. The former was killed at the battle of Winchester, Virginia, while the latter became ill at the front and, being brought to his home in Linn township, here passed away. For many years the grandparents resided on their farm in Linn township and were identified with the early development and improvement of that section of the county. The death of Mr. Stinger occurred in 1876, his wife having preceded him to the home beyond.

Phillip M. Stinger, the father of our subject, was born in Washington, D. C., May 7, 1835, and was a lad of nine years when the family removed to Linn county. He was here reared to the occupation of farming and acquired his education in the primitive schools of this district. After reaching years of maturity he wedded Miss Eliza Leigh, who was born in Montgomery county, Indiana. Following their marriage they took up their abode upon a farm and as the years passed the father accumulated more land until at the time of his death he owned three hundred and twenty-six acres, which had been in his possession since 1863. Like his father, he took an active part in the development and improvement of his home locality, and in his death, which occurred November 21, 1906, when he was seventy-one years of age, the community lost one of its most valuable and helpful citizens. The mother still survives and continues her residence on the farm which was left her by her husband. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Phillip M. Stinger were born three sons and two daughters: George E.; Theodore E., the subject of this sketch; Carrie, who died in infancy; Alice, who died February 22, 1896; and Harry.

Theodore E. Stinger spent his youth in the usual manner of farm lads. He attended the country schools and when opportunity offered enjoyed the pleasures in which most lads indulge. Much of his time, however, was spent in the





fields, where he worked from early spring planting until crops were gathered in the autumn. His practical training, however, has proved of value to him in his later life. He remained under the parental roof until he reached the age of twenty-three years, and was then married, in 1887, to Miss Estella Kepler, who was born July 30, 1866, a daughter of P. H. H. and Elizabeth (Doty) Kepler, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Defiance county, Ohio. In 1842 they came to Linn county, settling on a farm in Franklin township, and here reared their family numbering a son and two daughters, of whom Mrs. Stinger is the youngest, the others being: Frank H., who is married and makes his home in Linn county; and Hester A., the wife of Daniel Travis, also of this county. Mr. Kepler passed away November 23, 1887, while his wife, surviving for a long period, was called to the home beyond on the 3d of October, 1908.

Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Stinger began their domestic life upon eighty acres of land belonging to Mrs. Stinger. Through his perseverance and careful management and the assistance of his estimable wife Mr. Stinger has added to this property until their possessions now embrace two hundred, fifty-five and three-quarters acres of as highly cultivated and finely improved land as Linn county affords. He has made a success of handling stock as well as of farming and today he stands among the substantial residents of this section of the state.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Stinger have been born two children. Lee A., who was born July 22, 1888, and was educated in the schools of Springville and Mount Vernon; and Arlo K., who was born April 21, 1897. Both sons remain at home.

Mr. Stinger is a republican in his political views and affiliations but has never been active as an office seeker. He is a member of Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 551, I. O. O. F., at Mount Vernon, and of Star of Bethlehem Lodge, No. 3, K. P., of that city. The work instituted by the grandfather and carried on by the father is still continued by the son, who fully sustains the reputation that was borne by them. He stands today as a high type of American manhood, who has won success in life and at the same time has gained the respect and honor of his fellowmen.

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### ALPHONSO C. PORT

Alphonso C. Port, who has resided within the borders of Linn county from his birth to the present time, has followed farming as a life work and is now the owner of two hundred and eighty acres of rich and productive land in Brown township. He was born in this county on the 29th of December, 1859, his parents being John and Catherine (Armstrong) Port, who were natives of London and New York respectively. At an early day they took up their abode in Linn county, entering the land which is now in possession of our subject. On that farm they continued to reside until 1875, when they removed to Denver, Colorado, where the father passed away in 1880. The mother still makes her home in that city and enjoys excellent health at the age of seventy-six years. Unto this worthy couple were born seven children, namely: Charles, who is a resident of Denver, Colorado; Alphonso C., of this review; F. E. and John A., both living in Colorado; and Mary, Hattie and Jennie, all three deceased.

Alphonso C. Port supplemented his preliminary education by a high school course and remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority. He then devoted his attention to the operation of a rented farm for a time and later purchased the old homestead place, in the further cultivation and improvement of which he has since been actively engaged. The property comprises two hundred and eighty acres of valuable land in Brown township and in its neat and thrifty appearance indicates the supervision of a practical and progressive



owner. Mr. Port likewise has a tract of five acres of timber land in Jones county, Iowa, and an orchard of ten acres in Colorado. In addition to cultivating the cereals best adapted to soil and climate he makes a specialty of raising hogs and this branch of his business adds materially to his income.

On the 3d of November, 1886, Mr. Port was united in marriage to Miss Hattie Hakes, a native of Jones county, Iowa. They now have seven children, as follows: Claude J., who is married; Clelland; Dever; Mary; Devilla, who is deceased; John L.; and Martha. The surviving children are all at home.

Mr. Port votes with the republican party and manifests a citizen's interest in the political situation of the country, yet does not seek office as a reward for party fealty. In the community where his entire life has been spent he has gained an extensive circle of warm friends who entertain for him the utmost regard and esteem because of his excellent traits of character.

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### GODFREY QUAAS

Since civilization took root in Europe the German race has sent its representatives into all sections of the community to become factors in planting the seeds of development and improvement. The sterling traits of character of the German people are manifest in Godfrey Quaas, who was born in Saxony, on the 13th of June, 1823. His parents were Christopher and Elizabeth Quaas, who spent their entire lives in Germany, where long since they passed away. Their family numbered eight children, including the subject of this review, who remained at home until sixteen years of age and during that period pursued his education in the public schools. He then began learning the wagon-maker's trade which he followed for a number of years, working diligently and persistently in his native land in order to gain a good start in life.

On the 12th of April, 1846, Mr. Quaas was united in marriage to Miss Mary Lantman, who was born May 20, 1823. Her parents were born in Germany and both died in that country. Their family numbered five children including the daughter Mary, who in 1846 took charge of her own household, the young couple beginning their domestic life in their native land. In 1849 they started for America, hoping to find here the improved business conditions which they had heard existed in the new world. At that time it took about six weeks to cross the sea for it was before the period of steam navigation and most ocean vessels were propelled by sails. On the 25th of May, 1849, they arrived in Marion, Linn county, Iowa. The town was small and the county but sparsely settled, but the young couple possessed stout hearts and willing hands and Mr. Quaas improved every opportunity that would enable him to provide a comfortable living for his family. He began work at the carpenter's trade and in connection with John Marion he built the two first two-story buildings in Cedar Rapids. These were located on First avenue and were built for William Stuart. In September, 1849, Mr. Quaas purchased eighty acres of land in Rapids township and took up his abode thereon, the family occupying a little log cabin which was covered with a clapboard roof and had a puncheon floor. There was not a nail in the whole house. The door was made of upright boards joined together and hung with wooden hinges. There was no window but the little cabin was well ventilated by a large fireplace eight feet long and four feet deep. Mr. Quaas and his family occupied this primitive home until 1860, when his prosperity enabled him to erect a two-story frame residence, commodious and comfortable in its equipment. He resided upon the farm for forty-nine years, during which period he brought the land under a high state of cultivation, transforming the once wild prairie into rich and productive fields, from which he annually gathered abundant



harvests. When almost a half century had passed he sold the farm, then comprising two hundred and sixty acres, to his oldest son, Louis, and removed to Cedar Rapids, where he lived retired. He owned a fine residence at No. 1615 C avenue, which he recently sold to a grandson and he and his wife now reside with another grandson on the old home farm. His former labor, intelligently directed, brought to him a substantial competence which enables him to enjoy many of the comforts of life.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Quaas have been born nine children of whom six are yet living: F. A., whose home is in this county; Matilda; Anna M.; W. H.; E. E.; and Sarah. There are also thirty-one grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren. Fifteen of the grandchildren are now married.

Mr. and Mrs. Quaas have long been devoted and faithful members of the Evangelical church and their lives have been permeated by their Christian belief. Mr. Quaas has always given his political allegiance to the republican party since becoming a naturalized American citizen, but has never sought nor desired office, preferring to give his time and attention to his business affairs whereby he provided a comfortable living for his family and laid by a handsome competence for old age. He has now reached the eighty-seventh milestone on life's journey and is one of the venerable and honored citizens of Cedar Rapids, deserving much credit for what he has accomplished.

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#### JAMES L. BEVER

If one were asked to characterize James L. Bever in a single sentence it might perhaps best be done in saying that in him splendid business ability and public-spirited citizenship are well balanced forces. It would be impossible to disassociate his activities from the growth and progress of Cedar Rapids, for even along business lines his efforts have been an element in the city's material growth, while in many ways from which he has derived no personal benefit he has put forth earnest and effective effort for the progress and improvement of Cedar Rapids.

A blinding snowstorm cut off the view of the city when, on the 2d of April, 1852, the Bever family arrived in Cedar Rapids. They found themselves, however, in a village containing only about three hundred inhabitants, while upon the west bank of the river there was a large camp of Indians. James L. Bever was at that time a youth of fourteen years. His birth had occurred in Coshocton county, Ohio, March 4, 1838, his father being Sampson C. Bever, who for forty years continued an honored and prominent resident of Iowa. He, too, was a native of Ohio, his birth having occurred in Columbiana county, July 13, 1808. The grandfather of James L. Bever also bore the name of James, while the great-grandfather was Sampson Bever, a native of Germany, who lived for a time in Ireland and in 1777 crossed the Atlantic to America. Soon after his arrival he joined the army, participating in the Revolutionary war, and after the independence of the nation was declared he established his home in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, while his last days were spent in Washington county, that state. James L. Bever is also a descendant in the fourth generation of James Imbrie, who was born in Scotland and came to the new world in 1780, after which he made his home in Washington county, Pennsylvania, until his death. His daughter became the wife of James Bever, who in 1809 removed to Holmes county, Ohio, and thereafter took active part in the pioneer development of the Buckeye state. Amid the hardships and environment of frontier life Sampson C. Bever was reared and again he became identified with the frontier when he removed to Cedar Rapids on the 2d of April, 1852. Here he began farming, but later turned his





attention to merchandising and during the last five years of his connection therewith was also identified with the construction of the Chicago, Iowa & Nebraska Railroad. When the road was built to Cedar Rapids he established a private bank, which was afterward reorganized as the City National Bank and has ever maintained a place as the strongest as well as the oldest monetary institution of the city. He was closely identified with the development and progress of Cedar Rapids along business, intellectual and moral lines. He was particularly active in advancing the interests of Grace Episcopal church and was a most liberal contributor toward the erection of St. Luke's Hospital. He was married August 8, 1833, to Miss Mary Blythe, of Fayette county, Pennsylvania, who died June 14, 1885, while his death occurred August 22, 1892, when he had reached the advanced age of eighty-four years. There was a feeling of uniform sorrow throughout the city and, indeed, wherever he was known, for he stood as the highest type of American manhood and citizenship, honored by all not only for the success which he achieved but by reason of the straightforward methods which he ever followed and for his active participation in those movements which contribute to the world's betterment.

James L. Bever spent his youthful days to the age of fourteen years in his native state. He was a lad of six when his parents removed to Millersburg, Ohio, where he attended a private school and later prosecuted his studies under the direction of Josiah Given, then a young law student and afterward the distinguished chief justice of Iowa's supreme court. In 1852 the family started by carriage from their old home to Pittsburg, where they took passage on the Asia, an old time side-wheel steamer, which brought them through the waters of the Ohio and up the Mississippi to Muscatine, Iowa. They then continued their journey by carriage to Cedar Rapids, traveling over a very sparsely settled country between this city and Muscatine. As the years passed the father made frequent investments in government land and James L. Bever often accompanied him on such trips, on one occasion driving sixty miles over the prairie to Grundy county without seeing a single person. A pocket compass was used as their guide and they would estimate the number of miles traveled by the revolution of the wagon wheels. The father, recognizing the value of education, arranged for his son James to continue his studies in a private school for boys conducted by the Rev. Williston Jones, this school being the predecessor of Coe College. Subsequently he returned to Ohio and spent two years as a student in Kenyon College.

On again coming to Cedar Rapids Mr. Bever entered business life in a clerical position in the banking house of Green, Merritt & Company and subsequently was appointed cashier. In 1859 he joined his father in the establishment of a private bank under the name of S. C. Bever & Son and in following the passage by congress of the national banking law the bank was reorganized as the City National Bank and capitalized for one hundred thousand dollars, S. C. Bever becoming president of the institution, with James L. Bever as cashier. The latter succeeded to the presidency on the death of his father in 1892. Again a change occurred in management and control when, in 1898, the bank was reorganized as the Citizens National. From the period of his entrance into business life James L. Bever has been numbered among the financiers of Cedar Rapids, the banking interests of this city owing much to his enterprise, progressive methods and sound business judgment. He became one of the incorporators and directors of the Cedar Rapids Savings Bank, but at length withdrew from that connection as he felt that there was too much responsibility resting upon him. Mr. Bever was also one of the incorporators of the Cedar Rapids Water Company and served as its vice president for a number of years. He was also chosen to the vice presidency of the Electric Light & Power Company and is president of the Bever Land Company. His operations have been of an extensive character and the far-reaching effects of his business activity are shown in the growth and progress of the city.



In 1867 was celebrated the marriage of James L. Bever and Miss Lavinia Rathbone Silliman, of Rochester, New York. Their children are four in number: Mary, the wife of Ernest H. Norris, who is engaged in the hardware business in North Yakima, Washington; Louis Rathbone, who is now a resident of Missouri, having been admitted by the supreme court to the practice of law; James Lorenzo, Jr., who is vice president of the Commercial National Bank of Cedar Rapids, of which his father is president; and Pauline Lavinia, who is living at home.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Bever has been a stalwart republican, but has never sought the honors and emoluments of office as a reward of party fealty. He has attained high rank in Masonry, reaching the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite, while for twenty years he was treasurer of the Apollo Commandery, K. T., and was treasurer of El Kahir Temple of the Mystic Shrine until 1900. He has long been a devoted member of Grace Episcopal church, in which he succeeded his father as senior warden. Throughout his life he has been actuated by a laudable ambition and firm purpose in business that has prompted him to put forth able and effective effort in accomplishing results which he sought. At the same time his success has never been won at the sacrifice of others' interests, being on the contrary the outcome of clear judgment, experience and unfaltering integrity and industry. He has been aptly termed a man of purpose and the story of his life is the record of honest industry and thrift. He has won success without allowing personal interests or ambition to dwarf his public spirit or activities. The generous use which he had made of his means in assisting others marks him as a man of kindly nature, recognizing the obligations and responsibilities of wealth.

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### WILLIAM BOXWELL

With the farming interests of Linn township William Boxwell has been actively identified for many years and is now the owner of a well improved and valuable property, consisting of one hundred and eighty-five acres on section 14. He was born in Virginia on the 23d of January, 1830, his parents being Robert and Rhueda (Young) Boxwell, who were also natives of the Old Dominion and in 1845 brought their family to Linn county, Iowa, locating on a farm where they spent the remainder of their lives. Here the father died in 1868 and the mother's death occurred in 1874. In their family were eight children, of whom three are still living.

Reared to agricultural pursuits William Boxwell remained under the parental roof until he attained his majority, giving his father the benefit of his labor. Having acquired an excellent knowledge of farming, he then rented land, which he operated for some years, and in 1865 purchased the farm on which he now resides, and to its cultivation and improvement he has since devoted his energies with good success. He received a good common-school education and has always made the best use of his advantages in life.

It was on the 23d of January, 1865, that Mr. Boxwell was united in marriage to Miss Julia E. McCrary, who was born in New York state, March 7, 1845, a daughter of William and Almira (Mann) McCrary. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania but her mother was born in Massachusetts. In 1850 the family removed to Illinois and two years later became residents of Iowa, where Mr. McCrary passed away in 1866. His wife long survived him, dying in 1890. They were the parents of eight children and Mr. and Mrs. Boxwell have a family of four, namely: Frank L., now a resident of Jones county, Iowa; Moses A., who lives on the home farm; Clarence L., who resides in Davenport, Iowa; and Clara



E., the wife of Clarence E. Lee, of Cedar Rapids. They also have seven grandchildren.

The republican party has always found in Mr. Boxwell a staunch supporter of its principles, but he has never taken an active part in public affairs as an office seeker, his time being fully occupied by his business interests. Both he and his wife are earnest and consistent members of the Presbyterian church of Linn township and they have the respect and esteem of all who know them.

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### M. I. CUMMING

M. I. Cumming is a successful farmer, operating one hundred and sixteen acres of land in Linn township. He was born in the neighboring state of Illinois, the place of his nativity being Knox county, and the date of his birth July 16, 1860. His parents were George and Eliza (Atherton) Cumming, the former a native of Tennessee, and the latter of Illinois. The father lost his life while serving his country in the Civil war. The mother survived for many years, passing away in 1902. She was the mother of two sons and one daughter: Charles, a resident of Des Moines; M. I., of this review; and Eva, the wife of James Darr. Their home being in the state of Washington.

M. I. Cumming acquired his early education in the public schools, this being later supplemented by a college course, so that he was well prepared to face business conditions when starting out upon an independent career. He remained at home until he had reached his sixteenth year and from that time to the present has been dependent upon his own resources. He dates his residence in Linn county from 1902, at which time he purchased his present farm, comprising one hundred and sixteen acres, situated in Linn township. There are splendid improvements on the place, including a nice country home and good farm buildings for the shelter of grain and stock. Mr. Cumming gives his time to general farming and his thorough understanding of agriculture enables him to carry on his work so that the best results are obtained and each year he gathers good crops.

Mr. Cumming was married March 5, 1884, the lady of his choice being Miss Edith Waln, who was born in Mount Vernon, Iowa, in 1862. Her parents are E. D. and Mary (Adams) Waln, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work.

Mr. Cumming has supported the men and measures of the republican party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. Through reelection he is now serving his sixth year as township clerk, which is an indication that his duties are discharged in a capable manner. He is a Mason, belonging to Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 112, and attends the Methodist Episcopal church at Mount Vernon, of which his wife is a member. Although his residence in Linn county covers but a few years, he has already become favorably known and is so recognizing and utilizing the opportunities that come to him that his labors are being rewarded.

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### CHRIST JENSEN

For nineteen years Christ Jensen has owned the farm on which he now resides—a well developed tract of land of one hundred and thirty-three and a half acres on section 8, Brown township. Denmark has furnished a considerable number of residents to Linn county and they have proven their worth as citizens, standing loyally in support of all the movements and measures which promise to benefit the community. Mr. Jensen was born in Denmark, January 12, 1860, his





parents being Jens and Christina (Fredrickson) Jensen, both of whom were natives of Denmark, where they spent their entire lives. Their family numbered eleven children, of whom six are yet living.

Christ Jensen spent the period of his minority in his native country, acquired his education there and was trained to habits of industry and perseverance. The favorable reports which he heard concerning America and its opportunities led him to determine to establish his home on this side of the Atlantic and when twenty-one years of age he sailed for the new world, arriving in 1881. A number of his fellow countrymen had already become residents of Iowa and Mr. Jensen made his way to Linn county, where he worked as a farm hand. In 1883 he started in life independently as a farmer, renting a tract of land which he continued to cultivate for eight years or until 1891. In that time he carefully saved his earnings until his economy and judicious expenditure had brought him capital sufficient to enable him to purchase the farm which he now owns — a tract of one hundred and thirty-three and a half acres situated on section 8, Brown township. He has improved and developed this until it is now an excellent property. He practices the rotation of crops and thus keeps the soil in good condition. He also raises and feeds hogs and cattle and everything about his place indicates that his methods are practical and that his ideas are progressive.

In 1883 Mr. Jensen was united in marriage to Miss Kate Simerson, who was born in Denmark and crossed the Atlantic on the same vessel on which Mr. Jensen came to the new world. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jensen have been born three children, all of whom died in infancy. The parents are members of the Lutheran church and are people of many excellent qualities, as attested by the warm friendship and high regard which is uniformly extended them. Mr. Jensen has never had occasion to regret his determination to seek a home in the new world, for in this country he found the opportunities which he sought and in their improvement has gained a creditable position as a farmer of Brown township.

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### JOHN C. CORDES

John C. Cordes, who owns and operates a well improved farm of eighty acres on section 33, Linn township, is numbered among the worthy native sons of Linn county, his birth having occurred in that township on the 21st of September, 1873. His parents, Christian and Ruah (Doty) Cordes, were natives of Germany and Ohio respectively. They were married on the 1st of December, 1861, and took up their abode on a rented farm in Linn township, this county, which the father operated for one year. He then rented a larger farm and resided thereon for twelve years, on the expiration of which period he purchased land of his own. At the end of three years he disposed of the property and subsequently gave his attention to the operation of a rented farm for twenty-nine years or until the time of his retirement. His death, which occurred on the 24th of January, 1910, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, for he had gained an extensive circle of friends during the many years of his residence here. His wife was called to her final rest on the 9th of September, 1908. Their children were six in number, namely: one who died in infancy; Olive C., the wife of Charles Eastlack, of Linn county; Elizabeth E., who passed away when five years of age; Carrie E., the wife of Lee Kleineck, of this county; Addie M., the wife of Barney Peddy-cort, of Butler county, Iowa; and John C., of this review.

The last named remained at home until the death of his parents and then purchased his present farm of eighty acres on section 33, Linn township, to the further cultivation and improvement of which he has since given his time and energies. His labors as an agriculturist are being attended with a gratifying



measure of success and he well deserves classification among the substantial and enterprising citizens of the community.

On the 18th of September, 1907, Mr. Cordes was united in marriage to Miss Lewellin B. Owen, a daughter of Henry and Rachel S. (Davis) Owen, who were natives of New York and Pennsylvania respectively. They made their home in Bureau county, Illinois, until 1876, when they removed to the Empire state and there resided for two years. They then came to Linn county, Iowa, and here the father spent his remaining days, passing away at Mount Vernon in 1904. The mother still survives and lives with her daughters Mrs. John C. Cordes and Mrs. William Power. Mrs. Cordes was one of a family of four children, the others being as follows: Unity E., the wife of William Power, of Mount Vernon; Adelbert D., residing in Davenport, Iowa; and Charles W., who is married and lives in Chicago.

In politics Mr. Cordes has always been a staunch republican but has never sought office as a reward for his party fealty. He attends the Methodist Episcopal church, of which his wife is a devoted member, and they exemplify its teachings in their daily lives. Mr. Cordes enjoys a wide and favorable acquaintance in the county where he has resided from his birth to the present time and well merits the kindly regard and esteem in which he is uniformly held.

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#### HENRY E. NEAL.

Henry E. Neal, a successful and enterprising representative of agricultural interests in Linn county, is the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of fine farming land in Linn township. His birth occurred in that township on the 14th of February, 1860, his parents being Chauncey and Jane (Clark) Neal, who are mentioned at greater length on another page of this work in connection with the sketch of Elmer D. Neal, the brother of our subject. Their children were four in number, namely: Elmer D., living in Linn township; Ira O., who is deceased; Mary M., the wife of A. J. Reed, of Linn township; and Henry E., of this review.

The last named supplemented his preliminary education by a college course and in his youthful years also gained practical knowledge of the best methods of tilling the soil and planting crops, for he assisted in the operation of the home farm. After attaining his majority he rented the old homestead place and his parents lived with him until 1882, when they took up their abode on a small farm adjoining. Mr. Neal bought the home property of eighty acres and has extended the boundaries of the place by additional purchase from time to time until it now embraces three hundred and twenty acres of highly improved and valuable land. In former years he devoted considerable attention to the raising of stock and in all of his undertakings has met with success. The neat and thrifty appearance of his place indicates the supervision of a practical and progressive owner, and the well tilled fields annually yield bounteous harvests in return for the care and labor which is bestowed upon them.

On the 18th of October, 1882, Mr. Neal was united in marriage to Miss Minnie J. Leigh, a daughter of Charles A. and Lydia A. (Ballard) Leigh, both of whom were natives of Ohio. The father accompanied his parents on their removal to this county in 1851 and remained on the home farm in Linn township until he had attained the age of twenty-eight years. He then purchased a tract of land and gave his attention to its further cultivation and improvement until 1892, when he put aside the active work of the fields and has since lived retired in Mount Vernon. His wife was called to her final rest on the 28th of November, 1900. Unto them were born three children, as follows: William E., who is a resident of Cedar Rapids; Mrs. Neal; and Clarence E., likewise living in Cedar



Rapids. Mr. and Mrs. Neal have four children, namely: Clarence E., who attended Cornell College at Mount Vernon for eight terms, and who is now married and resides in Linn township; Ethel M., who has completed a course in music and is now the wife of John Lacoek, of Linn township; Clara M., who has a college education and is the wife of Frank Wickham, of Linn township; and Lloyd E., a college student.

Mr. Neal is a democrat in his political views and holds the office of assessor, having capably discharged the duties of that position for four terms. He likewise acts as school treasurer. Fraternally he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Mount Vernon, belonging to lodge No. 551, in which he has filled one chair. He enjoys an extensive and favorable acquaintance in the county where his entire life has been spent and is widely recognized as a prosperous, progressive and representative citizen.

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### JAMES E. HARLAN

Some men build to themselves monuments in the wealth which they acquire, and others in political service, but practically putting aside the desire for legitimate prosperity and with no aspiration for prominence, Professor James E. Harlan is leaving his impress upon those with whom he comes in contact in his position as educator and whose intellects are quickened by his touch. His time and talents are practically given to the world in an effort to broaden the riches of the intellect and thereby make possible the utilization of individual powers. Cornell College is largely the tangible evidence of his devotion to that which he chose as his life work and in the position of president he is bending every energy toward making the institution serve the highest purpose along educational lines. He was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, June 25, 1845, a son of Samuel and Sarah Ann (Elliott) Harlan, natives of Chester county, Pennsylvania, and Muskingum county, Ohio, respectively.

No event of special importance occurred to mark his youth as of unusual interest or experience until after the outbreak of the Civil war, when with a patriotism aroused to the point of action, he joined Company D, of the Forty-fourth Iowa Infantry and went to the front as a private, continuing in the service until the close of hostilities. It was subsequent to this time that his more advanced education was acquired. Cornell College is his alma mater and upon the completion of the classical course the Bachelor of Arts degree was conferred upon him in June, 1869. That was indeed the "commencement" year in his life. Not only, having completed his college course, did he enter upon the active work of life as a factor in the business world but also established his home in his marriage in December, 1869, to Miss Harriet Janette McKinney.

In that year he secured the superintendency of the Cedar Rapids schools and continued his work of teaching there for three years. In 1872 he became principal of a ward school in Sterling, Illinois, and the following year returned to Cornell College, having been elected alumni professor of mathematics. A few years later the chair was made mathematics and astronomy, President Harlan continuing in that professorship until June, 1908. In 1881 he was made vice president of Cornell College and served in that relation until called to the presidency. He has been a member of the executive committee and its chairman since 1883, and in June, 1908, was chosen president of Cornell College. For thirty-seven years he has devoted his energies untiringly toward building up this institution. He has sacrificed his personal interests for the good of the school and has labored continuously with the highest ideals before him. The purpose of teaching in his opinion is to develop capacity. As Kant has expressed it, the object of education





is to train the individual to reach the highest perfection possible for him. Moreover, recognizing the fact that it is in youth that the life of the man is marked out, his future course decided and his choice as to good or evil made, President Harlan has labored with the end in view of not only stimulating intellectual activity but of planting those seeds which will reach fruition in character building that leaves no doubt as to the real worth to the community of every individual.

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#### MRS. L. M. BENNETT

That woman is not lacking in any of the qualities essential to the attainment of success in commercial lines is being again and again demonstrated in towns and cities where ladies are controlling growing and important mercantile interests. Among this number in Cedar Rapids is Mrs. L. M. Bennett, who is carrying on a corset shop in which she has a large, growing and gratifying patronage. She is a lady of excellent business ability and executive force, watchful of all opportunities pointing to success, and at all times guiding her interests in accordance with the rules which govern commercial integrity.

She was born in Poweshiek county, Iowa, on the 13th of May, 1877, and is a daughter of William F. and Sarah (Shiflett) Frearer, the former a native of Somerset county, Pennsylvania, and the latter of Virginia. They came to Iowa in the early '60s and settled in Poweshiek county upon a farm where Mr. Frearer for many years devoted his attention to general agricultural pursuits, bringing his fields under a high state of cultivation and adding many improvements to his place. He died in December, 1907, but Mrs. Frearer is still living.

Mrs. Bennett was one of a family of nine children and spent her girlhood days like the other daughters of the household, acquiring her education in the public schools and assisting in the work consequent upon the care of the home. In 1907 she came to Cedar Rapids and for three years has been a factor in the commercial interests of this city, establishing a corset parlor at No. 501 First avenue, East. She has since conducted a good business for her thorough understanding of trade and the needs and wants of her patrons prompts her to carry the best that the market affords, as well as the more moderate priced goods. Her business qualifications are recognized by all who have dealings with her and her success is a matter of gratification to her many friends.

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#### WILLIAM J. DELANEY

William J. Delaney, who at the present time is serving as assessor of Fairfax township, is one of the public-spirited men of his section and is now successfully engaged in farming on a tract of eighty acres which he owns on section 32, Fairfax township. He is a native of La Salle county, Illinois, born on the 13th of March, 1877, a son of Thomas and Bridget Delaney, the former likewise a native of La Salle county, born on the 1st of January, 1859. He remained in the state of his nativity until 1883, which year witnessed his arrival in Linn county. Here in Fairfax township he purchased three hundred and seventy acres of valuable farming land, which he cultivated in addition to raising stock from that time until his death, which occurred in January, 1909.

William J. Delaney was a little lad of six years when the family took up their abode in Linn county and it was in the district schools of this section that he acquired his education, attending to the age of sixteen years. He then took a course in the Cedar Rapids Business College, remaining in that institution for



one year. Thus well equipped to face the responsibilities of life, he returned to the home farm in Linn county, remaining with his father until the latter's death, when he purchased eighty acres on section 32, Fairfax township, which he is now successfully operating. He follows modern methods of agriculture and in his work is meeting with success.

Mr. Delaney chose as a companion and helpmate for the journey of life Miss Margaret Gurnett, their marriage being celebrated on the 6th of February, 1907. In politics Mr. Delaney is a democrat and is now serving as assessor of Fairfax township. In religious faith he is a Catholic, while his fraternal relations connect him with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of Columbus. He belongs to that class of representative young men who rapidly discern opportunities for advancement and through the utilization of these is rapidly forging his way to the front.

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### MRS. ELLA HULL

Mrs. Ella Hull, well known in Cedar Rapids not only in social circles but also as a lady of excellent business and executive ability, is a daughter of John Lomison, who was born in the state of New York in 1829. Having arrived at years of maturity, he wedded Miss Maria L. Vredenburg, who was born in Vermont, in 1837. Mr. Lomison made his way westward to Illinois at an early period in the development and upbuilding of that state and settled at Dixon, Lee county, where he lived until 1875, in which year he came to Cedar Rapids. His remaining days, covering a quarter of a century, were here passed, and he enjoyed the good will and confidence of his fellow citizens, who found him reliable in business, faithful in citizenship and loyal to the ties of home and friendship. He had reached the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten and at his death he left a widow and three children. Mrs. Lomison is still living and now makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Hull, who was the second in order of birth in a family of four children, she being the only daughter. Her elder brother, Deloy, is now living in Clinton, Iowa, while her younger brother, William, is a resident of Cedar Rapids. One brother, Oscar H., who was the youngest of the family, is deceased.

Mrs. Hull acquired a high school education in Cedar Rapids and afterward successfully engaged in teaching school in Linn county for five years. She now owns a fine home at No. 1424 First avenue East, and also two residences on the west side of the river, from which she derives a good rental. She possesses notable business ability and not only looks after her own real estate and financial affairs but also cares for the business interests of her mother.

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### MICHAEL G. BOWLER

Michael G. Bowler is an enterprising and progressive agriculturist residing on section 32, Fairfax township. His birth occurred in Lakeford, New Hampshire, on the 24th of October, 1856, his parents being Michael and Ellen Bowler. After his arrival in Linn county, Iowa, he attended the district schools of Fairfax until a youth of eighteen. After putting aside his text-books he worked as a farm hand for Patrick Flaherty for six months and was afterward employed in a similar capacity by William Nolan for two years. He next spent a year on the farm of Sidney Welsh and then worked for various other agriculturists for another year and a half. On the expiration of that period he rented eighty acres of land



and in 1882 had accumulated sufficient capital to purchase the tract. He likewise rented eighty acres of his father's estate and carried on his farming interests with marked success until 1888, when he and his mother leased their property and took up their abode in Fairfax. Here Mr. Bowler became associated in business with L. Lefebure, conducting a general mercantile enterprise until 1892, and during the following year he bought grain and sold lumber in the interests of the Northern Grain Company. On severing his connection with that concern he returned to his home in Fairfax township and has since devoted his time and energies to its further cultivation and improvement with excellent results. In addition to raising the cereals best adapted to soil and climate he also feeds stock to some extent, now owning six horses, ten cattle and six hogs.

On the 10th of July, 1905, in Fairfax, Mr. Bowler was united in marriage to a Miss Selzer, by whom he has one child, Mary Ellen, now two years of age. Fraternally he is identified with the Modern Brotherhood Association and his political allegiance is given to the democracy. In religious faith he is a Catholic. He has gained a wide acquaintance in Linn county during the many years of his residence here and his friends know him as a substantial agriculturist and a man of genuine worth.

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### BENJAMIN P. MILLER

In the later years of his life Benjamin P. Miller lived retired but for many years was identified with general agricultural pursuits. His well directed labor and intense energy and close application brought him the success which enabled him in his declining years to put aside business cares and rest in the enjoyment of those comforts which a goodly competence permitted him to secure. He was born April 1, 1828, and died on the 9th of May, 1900, respected by all who knew him. A native of Vermont, his birth occurred at Moretown, his parents being John and Sarah (Pierce) Miller. The father was also a native of the Green Mountain state. The mother came of the same ancestry as President Franklin Pierce.

In the schools of Vermont Benjamin P. Miller pursued his education and was graduated from one of the thorough institutions of learning there. He was about thirty years of age when he became the owner of a farm in Delaware county, Iowa, turning his attention to the further development and improvement of his tract of forty acres. For thirty-five years he followed general farming, capably directing his labors in accordance with the modern methods of tilling the soil. Good results were achieved and as the years passed on he added to his financial resources until his competence was a goodly one. He then sold his property and for several years lived retired.

Mr. Miller married and had five children. George W., the eldest, married Hattie Richardson and is a resident of Florida. Ezra S., who is chief engineer with the Kirshbaum Company, a manufacturing and cold storage enterprise, married Lillian Dunlap and their children are Adah, Mae, Martha and Alice, all living with their parents in Omaha, Nebraska. Effie T., the third member of the Miller family, was graduated from the Iowa State College at Des Moines, was a student in Lennox College and for some time successfully engaged in teaching. Albert S. died at the age of twenty-one years. Alberta R. is living at home with her sister Effie.

Mr. Miller was ever loyal to his church, generous in its support and active in the various departments of its work. He was president of the Sunday school class, was also president of the library association and his ability led to his selection for other positions of honor and trust. He served as president of the cemetery association, was elected county supervisor and assessor and filled other minor





offices when living in Delaware county. No trust reposed in him was ever betrayed in the slightest degree. He was ever loyal to the duties that devolved upon him and as the years came and went the honor and nobility of his life won him the unqualified respect and confidence of all who knew him. The memory of his upright career remains as a blessed benediction to those with whom he came in contact and his life record is an example which any might well follow.

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#### REV. PATRICK REYNOLDS

Rev Patrick Reynolds, the pastor of St. Patrick's church at Fairfax, was born in County Leitrim, Ireland, on the 10th of April, 1878. He attended the national schools until sixteen years of age and then entered the Moyne Seminary, a school of classics in County Longford, where he studied Latin and Greek for three years. He next attended St. Patrick's College in County Carlow until June, 1901, and was then appointed priest at the college church, there remaining until October. In that month he crossed the Atlantic to the United States and from New York made his way direct to Dubuque, Iowa, where he was appointed assistant to Rev. Gunn at Cedar Rapids by Archbishop Hennessey. In 1904 he went to Dubuque, Iowa, as assistant to Rev. Ryan at St. Patrick's church and in March, 1906, came to Fairfax, having been appointed pastor of St. Patrick's church here by Archbishop Kane, of Dubuque. He also preaches at the Starke settlement church in Clinton township and spends two Sundays of each month in the Catholic church at Watkins, Iowa. He dedicated the new church at Watkins in June, 1908, and held the first mass in April, 1908. At Fairfax he organized the Altar and Rosary Society for women in 1907 and the following year organized the Holy Name Society for men. He enjoys the high esteem and love of his parishioners and his labors have been an important factor in the growth and spread of Catholicism here.

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#### WESLEY F. WASHBURN

Wesley F. Washburn is the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and forty acres situated on section 2, Brown township. There he is successfully engaged in raising and feeding stock and moreover keeps his place under such a high state of cultivation that it constitutes one of the attractive features in the landscape. Mr. Washburn is a native son of Iowa, his birth having occurred in Buchanan county on the 1st of February, 1863. His parents were J. F. and Savilla (Bronson) Washburn, both of whom were natives of Ohio. They came to Iowa, however, with their parents during their childhood days and here spent the remainder of their lives. The father was a soldier in the Civil war and, being captured, was held prisoner for one year and five days, suffering all the hardships of southern prison life. He lived for many years, however, to enjoy the benefits of a reunited country and passed away on the 24th of November, 1909. He had long survived his wife, who passed away in January, 1889. They had two children, the daughter being Della, now the wife of E. Woodworth, of Viola, Iowa.

The only son, Wesley F. Washburn, remained at home until thirteen years of age, when he started out in life on his own account. He has since depended entirely upon his own resources and whatever success he has achieved is attributable to his earnest effort and diligence. He was employed as a farm hand for a number of years and during that period was actuated by the laudable ambition to one day own a home of his own. To this end he carefully saved his earnings and in 1905 he purchased the farm upon which he now lives, comprising one hundred



and forty acres of land on section 2, Brown township. He makes a specialty of raising and feeding stock and everything about his place is kept in excellent condition. He handles stock of high grades and finds a ready sale on the market. There are few idle hours in his life. He is a persistent, earnest worker, and his labors have brought him the success which eventually crowns earnest and intelligently applied effort.

In September, 1898, Mr. Washburn was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Chopper, who was born in Jones county, Iowa, a daughter of J. P. and Nancy A. Chopper. The father is now deceased but the mother is still living, her home being in Anamosa. In their family were two children, and by her marriage Mrs. Washburn has become the mother of two daughters, Eethel Ann and Alice E. Mrs. Washburn is a member of the Congregational church.

Mr. Washburn gives his political allegiance to the republican party, which he has supported since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He is living the quiet and uneventful life of the farm, but is recognized as one of the representative citizens of the community because of his loyal support of all that he believes to be of public benefit. Those who know him entertain for him warm regard because of his business integrity, his laudable ambition and his personal worth.

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### MICHAEL ELLSWORTH ECKERT

Michael Ellsworth Eckert, who through his entire business career has been identified with railway interests, was born in Butler county, Ohio, March 5, 1857, and is a son of Daniel H. Eckert. The latter, a native of Germany, came to the United States with his parents when a little lad of five years, and in the schools of this country acquired an excellent education. He is a college graduate, receiving his degree upon completing the medical course, and during the years of his connection with business affairs made the practice of medicine his life work. He is a veteran of the Civil war, enlisting as a private in the Twenty-fourth Ohio Regiment and fighting throughout the war with Phil Sheridan. Later he was made lieutenant and was also put in charge of hospital corps, and was finally mustered out with an excellent military record. After the war he took up his profession in Butler county, Ohio, where he remained for a number of years, after which he removed to Logansport, Indiana, and there continued until his retirement from active life at the age of seventy-five. He now makes his home in that city, and is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. His wife bore the maiden name of Sarah Long and was a native of Pennsylvania. Unto their union were born two children, Michael and Elmer Ellsworth. The younger son took up railroading as a life work and became conductor. He met his death at Hamilton, Ohio, while in the employ of the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Traction Company.

The elder son, whose name introduces this review, spent the early years of his life in his native state, acquiring his education in the public schools of Butler county. Also attracted toward railroading, upon laying aside his text-books he began his career as a track laborer and later became section foreman for the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railroad, remaining in that capacity for seventeen years, and was then for seven years engaged as tie inspector for the same company. The succeeding five years were spent as roadmaster for the Rock Island system, at the expiration of which period, in November, 1909, he severed his connections with that company and is now in the employ of the Cedar Rapids & Marion Street Railway Company. Although one of the more recent employees of that company, his thorough previous experience and his ability and reliability



in the discharge of his duties make him a valued factor in the position which he now fills and he is numbered among the capable employes of the company.

In October, 1877, Mr. Eckert was united in marriage to Miss Charlotte Burrows, who was born near Plattsville, Wisconsin, and with the passing years their home has been blessed with nine children, all of whom are yet living. They are as follows: May, the wife of Tad Main, of Coggon, Linn county; Rosa, who became the wife of Charles Barber, of St. Paul, Minnesota; Gertrude, who is employed as forelady for the Cedar Rapids Candy Company; Jennie, who wedded George Hackberth, a farmer residing near Dows, Iowa; Bessie, at home; Lloyd, employed in the accounting department of the Colorado Springs & Cripple Creek District Railway; Harvey, with the Cedar Rapids & Marion Street Railway Company; Lee, attending high school; and Archie, a student in the grammar school.

The family attend the St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal church, in the work of which they are much interested, and are well known in social circles in Cedar Rapids. Mr. Eckert's fraternal relations are with the Masons, holding membership in Carnelian Lodge, No. 425, of Dows, Iowa, while in politics he has given staunch support to the republican party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. Public-spirited in his citizenship, he is at all times interested in the plans for the city's development and growth, his influence and activity being always on the side of progress, reform, improvement and advancement — qualities which constitute him a citizen of worth in any community.

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### JONAS HARNISH

A residence of more than a half century in Iowa has made Jonas Harnish familiar with the development and improvement of various sections and to his efforts is due not a little of the progress that has been made in Linn county, for he has not only witnessed but participated in the work that has brought about the advancement in agricultural pursuits in this section.

He was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, October 26, 1843, a son of Benjamin and Anna (Kinsley) Harnish, who were likewise natives of that county, where they were reared and married. In 1859 the father decided to try his fortune in the new but rapidly developing west. Accordingly he and his family started for Iowa and, making their way as far as Clinton, were passengers on the first train that ran from that point to Mount Vernon over the Chicago, Iowa & Nebraska Railroad, now the Northwestern Railroad. They spent their first summer on a farm located midway between Lisbon and Mount Vernon in Linn county, but the following spring, in 1860, they removed to another farm one mile northwest of Viola. The father was not long permitted to enjoy his new home in the west, for his death occurred here in January, 1861. His son Jonas, being the only child at home, then assumed the management of the place and with the mother continued to make it his place of residence for sixteen years. In the fall of 1875 the mother and son came to Jackson township, and from that time his present farm has been in possession of the family. The mother here passed away on the 11th of October, 1896.

Jonas Harnish was a youth of sixteen years when he accompanied his parents on the removal from the Keystone state to Iowa. His education, begun in the schools of the east, was continued in the schools of Linn county. He was, however, denied many privileges that he otherwise might have enjoyed, for after the death of his father, although the son was but eighteen years of age, much responsibility rested upon his shoulders. At that time he was the only child living at home and he assumed the entire management of the farm near Viola, and after his mother located in Jackson township he likewise managed the home farm. At





the time of the latter's death he owned forty acres of the homestead and in addition to this cultivated the forty acres which still remained the mother's property but since her death the entire tract has been owned by him. He is now associated with his youngest son in his farming operations and they make a specialty of raising thoroughbred Duroc Jersey hogs, having some of the finest stock to be found in Jackson township. Mr. Harnish has made creditable success but it is well deserved for it has come only through his own energy and perseverance and through adherence to strict and honorable dealings with his fellowmen.

On April 13, 1865, occurred the marriage of Jonas Harnish and Miss Nancy A. Neeley, a resident of Viola, Iowa. She is a native of Indiana, from which state she came to Iowa with her parents, Daniel and Susanna (Storm) Neeley, in August, 1846, prior to the admission of Iowa into the Union. They located on a farm one mile southeast of Waubeek, in Linn county, casting in their lot with the pioneer settlers. For many years they lived in a log cabin, which was later replaced by a more modern residence. After many years' residence on the farm they removed to Viola and lived retired.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Harnish have been born two sons and one daughter. Benjamin D. is a blacksmith by trade but follows farming in Linn county. Lurilla, the only daughter, is the wife of E. J. Ellis, a resident of Clark, South Dakota. Ivan H., who is associated with his father in business, wedded Miss Bessie V. Curry, of Dyersville, Dubuque county, Iowa, and they have three children: Alta Naoma, Florence Magnolia and Orville Jonas.

The republican party has always found in Mr. Harnish a staunch supporter of its principles, and his interest in the cause of education is indicated in the fact that for twenty-two years he has served on the school board and is at present treasurer of the board. His fraternal relations connect him with Coggon Lodge, No. 567, I. O. O. F. At the time of his arrival in Linn county more than fifty years ago, the settlers did not enjoy the comforts and advantages of the present day but through it all Mr. Harnish worked on, overcoming all the obstacles that barred his path, until today he is in possession of a comfortable competence and surrounded by a host of warm friends, all of whom speak of him in none but terms of highest praise and commendation.

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#### JACOB GERBER, SR.

Possessing all the characteristics of his German ancestry, Jacob Gerber, Sr., has through his energy and perseverance gradually worked his way upward until he today finds a place among the substantial citizens of Linn county, owning and operating a valuable farm of two hundred and seventy acres, located on section 26, Clinton township. Born in Baden, Germany, June 6, 1857, he is a son of Jacob and Christiana Gerber. The father was likewise born in Baden, where he spent his life in the occupation of farming, and died in 1865.

Jacob Gerber, Sr., acquired his education in the public schools of his native country, attending until the age of fourteen years. During the subsequent two years he worked on his father's farm but at that time in his life, full of the ambition and vigor of youth, he decided to emigrate to America. He came direct to Linn county, Iowa, and for three months was employed at farm labor. On the expiration of that period he went to Benton county, Iowa, where he eventually became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land and began farming on his own account. In 1894 he disposed of that property and retiring to Linn county, here purchased his present tract of land, comprising two hundred and seventy acres on sections 23 and 26. From that time to the present he has been operating this land and since taking possession has made many needed improve-



ments on the place. He occupies a comfortable home, surrounded by substantial barns and outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock, and, while he leads a busy life in carrying on the work in the fields, he at the same time takes a just pride in keeping his buildings in good condition so that his place is one of the attractive farms in his section of Linn county.

It was during his residence in Benton county that Mr. Gerber was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Emma Fritz, their marriage being celebrated February 28, 1882. Six children were born of this union but the eldest, Clara, died on the 27th of March, 1909. The surviving members are: Jacob, Jr., who attended the district schools until the age of sixteen and now, at the age of twenty-four years, is assisting his father in the work of the home farm; Charles, who also attended the district schools until his sixteenth year and is on the home farm; Christiana, who is a young lady of eighteen years and is under the parental roof; Clarence, sixteen years of age; and Elsie, who, at the age of thirteen, is a pupil in the Edgewood district school.

Mr. Gerber is a democrat in his political views and affiliations, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the German Lutheran church. The superiority of business opportunities and advantages in America is a fact little realized by the man who is born and reared in this country but it is a fact appreciated by many men of foreign birth who compare the chances in this and other countries and realize that larger possibilities are here offered. This fact Mr. Gerber has appreciated and since coming to the new world when a youth of sixteen years, he has persevered in the pursuit of an honest purpose and today is numbered among the men of affluence in Clinton township.

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#### MRS. MARTHA CARPENTER

Mrs. Martha Carpenter, living in Cedar Rapids, was in her maidenhood Miss Martha Harris, a daughter of J. G. and Jane (Tatham) Harris. Her father, at one time a resident of Zanesville, Ohio, was a son of Simon Harris. The latter was a farmer by occupation and a native of England, from which country he made his way direct to Ohio, where he settled and reared his family. It was in that state that J. G. Harris spent his boyhood and youth and he, too, was reared to the occupation of farming, which he decided to make his life work.

Arriving at years of maturity, he married Miss Jane Tatham and they had a family of children, which included the daughter Martha, who about eleven years ago, on the 18th of February, 1889, became the wife of B. C. Carpenter, an upholsterer and a representative of one of the old and well known families of Cedar Rapids. This marriage has been blessed with one child, a son, Terry, who is now in school. The parents attend the Zion Evangelical church and are well known in Cedar Rapids, where they have many friends.

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#### WILLIAM SPELLERBERG

William Spellerberg is a worthy representative of the younger generation of men who are successfully conducting agricultural interests in Linn county. As the name indicates, he comes of German ancestry but he is a native of Linn county, born April 27, 1883, of the marriage of Lawrence and Mary Spellerberg. The father was born in Germany on the 31st of March, 1842, and was a little lad of ten years when he was brought to America by his parents, who were farming people of this section of the state. Lawrence Spellerberg was trained to farm



work and remained with his parents until he was twenty-seven years of age. He then started out to make his own way in the business world by purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 18, Fairfax township, which he cultivated and improved until his death, which occurred in 1906. He was a highly respected citizen of Linn county and the community mourned his loss.

William Spellerberg was reared in much the usual manner of farm lads. At the usual age he began his education in the district schools, continuing his studies to the age of thirteen years. From that time on he gave his entire time to the work of the fields, giving his father the benefit of his services until he had attained the age of twenty-two. It was about that time that his father's death occurred, after which he inherited one hundred and sixty acres of land from the estate, and this has been his home to the present time. His land is located in Fairfax township and is one of the most productive tracts in that section of the county. He has erected a beautiful home, which is supplied with all the modern conveniences, while his barn and outbuildings are arranged with a view to convenience and his farm in all its equipments presents a most attractive appearance. He also owns a touring car.

On the 12th of September, 1905, occurred the marriage of Mr. Spellerberg and Miss Anna Tchel, their wedding being celebrated in Norway, Iowa. In religious faith he is a Catholic, while his fraternal relations are indicated by his membership in the Catholic Foresters. His life has been one of continuous activity and today he is numbered among the substantial farmers of Linn county.

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#### CHARLES H. STARK

No more productive land can be found in the great state of Iowa than is found in Linn county, and this truth is abundantly verified by the fact that so many of her native sons remain within her borders and follow farming as a life work. This is true of Charles H. Stark, who now owns and operates the homestead, comprising two hundred and eighty acres, located in Clinton township. Born in that township on the 1st of June, 1870, he is a son of Andrew and Mary Stark. The father was born in Germany in 1835 and on reaching his eighteenth year decided to try his fortune in the new world. On reaching American shores, he at once made his way to Linn county, where he followed farming throughout his life, accumulating a valuable tract of six hundred and eighty acres, two hundred and eighty of this now being owned by the son.

Charles H. Stark attended the district schools to the age of sixteen years. During the periods of vacation he was trained in the work of the home farm, his duties and responsibilities increasing with his strength and years. After completing his studies he took up farm work in earnest, assisting his father until the latter's death in 1900. He then took charge of the estate and now owns the farm, embracing two hundred and eighty acres in Clinton township. Mr. Stark has made a close study of farm work, knows what crops are best adapted to the soil and climate, and in his undertakings is meeting with success. He is a hard worker as may be seen in a glance at his farm, for everything about the place is neat and attractive in appearance, while his fields give promise of rich harvests each year.

Mr. Stark established a home of his own by his marriage on the 28th of April 1908, the lady of his choice being Miss Edna Jensicke, their marriage being celebrated in Clinton, Iowa. A little son, Arnold Henry, less than a year old, is the light and life of the household.

Mr. Stark is a democrat in his political views and affiliations and holds membership with the Catholic church. Although he is deeply interested in the





welfare of the community, he finds little time for active participation in public affairs, for his time is fully taken up with his private business affairs, in which he is meeting with success. He has spent his entire life in Clinton township, where his friends are numbered by the score.

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### J. G. LAIRD

J. G. Laird, holding a responsible position as superintendent of the interests of the Quaker Oats Company in Cedar Rapids, his business ability and enterprise being recognized by the corporation which he thus represents, was born in Scotland, September 27, 1869. His father, Francis O. Laird, was also a native of the land of hills and heather, of mountain peak and glen, and when he left that country in the '50s sailed for Canada. The mother bore the maiden name of Eliza Patterson and it was during one of her visits to Scotland that J. G. Laird was born. He was educated in the public schools of Canada and in Guelph Agricultural College, where he completed the full course.

Crossing the boundary into the United States in 1897, he made his way to Chicago, where he entered the employ of the Quaker Oats Company, becoming familiar with both the office and mill work connected with the mammoth business interests of the corporation. He was stationed at Kansas City until 1900, when he came to Cedar Rapids, where for six years he had charge of the office. He then became assistant to George Stuart, superintendent at this place, and upon the death of Mr. Stuart, in March, 1907, was appointed his successor in the fall of that year. His is the deciding voice in matters of vital importance to the business at this point and his position is indicative of his skill and the trust reposed in him by a house second to none in America in the extent and importance of its trade.

In 1900 Mr. Laird was married to Miss Flora A. Weatherton, a native of Kentucky. He has attained high rank in Masonry, having taken the degrees of the commandery and the Scottish Rite. He belongs to the Commercial and Country Clubs and his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Presbyterian church. Those who meet Mr. Laird at once appreciate his genial qualities and recognize the alert, enterprising spirit which is characteristic of him and which has enabled him to gain a position of prominence in business circles. No higher testimonial of his capability and worth could be given than the fact that throughout the entire period of his residence in the United States he has been in the employ of one corporation, working his way upward by successive promotions to a position of trust and responsibility.

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### HENRY SPELLERBERG

Henry Spellerberg has been identified with the interests of Linn county from the time of his entrance into the business world to the present. He is a native of the county, born on the 9th of September, 1873, a son of Joseph and Annie Spellerberg. The father, who was born in Westphalia, Germany, on the 5th of October, 1837, was a young man of twenty-one years when he emigrated to the new world and from that time until his death, on the 16th of November, 1907, he was engaged in farming in Linn county. He was thus identified with much of the early development and improvement of this section of the state and not only won success but at the same time commanded the full esteem and respect of all with whom he was associated. He was seventy years of age when called from this life.



Henry Spellerberg was reared on the home farm and pursued his studies in the district schools to the age of sixteen years. He then took up farming in earnest, giving his father the benefit of his services until the latter's death. The son then purchased eighty acres of land, which he rents, while he gives his time to contract work in laying tile, making his home in Fairfax. He always lives up to the terms of his contract and performs his labors most satisfactorily to those by whom he is employed. He is now well situated in life, for his farm returns him a good yearly rental, and he also realizes a good financial profit from his contracts.

In politics Mr. Spellerberg is independent, while in religious faith he is a Catholic. His fraternal relations are indicated by his membership in the R. M. C. P. S. of Iowa and the Holy Name Society. He derives much pleasure in touring the country in his automobile and is a most popular young man among his friends with whom he has been associated from childhood as well as those of later acquaintanceship.

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### HENRY J. WICKE

On section 20, Fairfax township, stands one of the most modern and finest country homes to be found in Linn county, it being occupied by Henry J. Wicke and his family. It is surrounded by a tract of valuable and productive land, embracing three hundred and twenty acres, to the cultivation of which the owner gives his entire time and attention. Mr. Wicke was born on this farm, a portion of which formerly constituted the old family homestead, in a little dwelling, which still stands on the place and which was his home from the date of his birth until 1910, when he erected his present fine residence. The date of his birth was January 15, 1866, his parents being Henry and Katherine (Lucas) Wicke. The father was born in Hanover, Germany, in October, 1828. He emigrated to the new world in 1860 and took up his abode in Linn county, Iowa, on a tract of eighty acres of raw and unimproved land which he entered from the government. This was prior to the building of railroads through this section and many hardships had to be endured in establishing a home in this pioneer district. On his place the father built a small house with a porch, this being the first porch in this part of the country. In the little dwelling he and his family resided and he worked for many years in the further development and improvement of the place. As he prospered in his undertakings he added to his original holdings a tract of eighty acres, which he also improved, and still later he bought one hundred and sixty acres more, but this last tract he sold to a neighbor during the last years of his life. His death occurred June 23, 1876, when he was but forty-eight years of age. The mother, who was born on the 5th of April, 1834, in Soignies, Belgium, accompanied her parents, John and Mary (Baptist) Lucas, on their emigration to the new world in 1859, the family home being established in Iowa City, this state. She eventually gave her hand in marriage to Henry Wicke, after which they took up their abode on a farm in Linn county and here reared their family of four sons and two daughters, of whom Henry J. is the third son. His sisters are: Mrs. Joe Thoman, of Fairfax; and Mrs. Frank Spellerberg, residing near Dalhart, Texas. His brothers are: John P., of Bemidji, Minnesota; and Joseph A., who is agent for the Moline Auto Company and makes his home in Marengo, Iowa. He is an expert in his line of business and has made several successful races with the automobile. Another brother, Charles Wicke, makes his home in Fairfax, Iowa. Following the father's demise, the mother continued to reside on the farm until all her children had reached years of maturity and she now makes her home in Fairfax with her son Charles.



Henry J. Wicke enjoyed the advantages of a public school education and during the periods of vacation was trained in the work of the farm. He remained with his parents until he attained his majority, in the meantime giving his father the benefit of his services, and at that age he started out in life for himself. As the years have passed by he has purchased land from time to time until his possessions now aggregate three hundred and twenty acres, a portion of which formerly constituted the old homestead farm. He has made many improvements on his land and for several years past has spent a thousand dollars each year in tiling and in the present year, 1910, he expects to complete this work, when all his land will be well drained. He has recently erected a fourteen-room house, which is lighted by electricity and is supplied with all the most modern conveniences, it being one of the finest homes in Linn county. Mr. Wicke gives his time to general farming and stock-raising, planting about one hundred acres to corn and one hundred and twenty-five acres to small grains, while he utilizes the remainder of his land for pasturage. He keeps good grades of stock for farm purposes and raises cattle and hogs on quite an extensive scale. He possesses much mechanical ingenuity and is thus able to keep all his farm implements in the best of repair, while he takes great pride in keeping the buildings about the place in good condition.

Mr. Wicke was married on the 6th of June, 1899, to Miss Mary Duncalf, a daughter of Joseph and Katherine (O'Hara) Duncalf, farming people of Benton county, Iowa. The father was born in England in 1834, while the mother was born in Ireland, in 1838. Upon their emigration to the new world, they located in Rochester, New York, where they spent some time but later moved to Benton county, this state, where they reared their family, numbering four sons and three daughters, the brothers and sisters of Mrs. Wicke being: Robert; William; Frank; George; Mrs. L. E. Coghy, living near Van Horn, Iowa; and Katherine, who wedded Joseph A. Wicke, a brother of our subject. She died August 9, 1906, leaving three daughters.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Wicke has been blessed with two daughters and two sons, as follows: Florence K., who was born July 3, 1900; Leo Joseph, born November 9, 1902; Lester Francis, whose birth occurred December 11, 1906; and Ella Elizabeth, who was born September 3, 1908.

Mr. Wicke supports the men and measures of the republican party and has served as school director for three terms but otherwise has filled no public office. He belongs to the Modern Brotherhood Association, of which his wife is also a member, and their religious faith is indicated by their membership in the Catholic church at Fairfax. The terms progress and patriotism might be considered the keynote of his character, for throughout his career he has labored for the betterment of his community as well as for his individual success, and today he stands among the most substantial and representative citizens of Fairfax township and Linn county.

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#### HARRY J. MANCHESTER

Harry J. Manchester, an employe of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Company at Cedar Rapids, was born in Lisbon, this county, and is a son of John M. and Elmira (Withem) Manchester. The mother is now deceased. The father, who is a carpenter by trade, came from Pennsylvania to Iowa when a young man and here began work at carpentering. For a long period he was actively identified with building operations here, but is now living retired and makes his home with his son, Harry J. Manchester.





At the usual age, Harry J. Manchester began his education in the public schools, but his opportunities in that direction were somewhat limited for when a youth of twelve years he went to work with horses and was employed in that way for a number of years. He has been identified with railroad interests much of the time since 1894, in which year he became a fireman occupying that position for about five years. He was afterward with the Sinclair Packing Company for a time and later entered the service of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Company, with which he is now connected.

On the 30th of August, 1900, Mr. Manchester was united in marriage to Miss Ida Fawcett, a daughter of Jonas and Angeline (Farmer) Fawcett. The father came to Iowa when a young man from his old home in Belmont, Ohio. He had learned the carpenter's trade and here turned his attention to contracting. Mr. Manchester and his wife are members of the Lutheran Evangelical church and take a very prominent and active part in the various lines of church work. He also belongs to the Knights of Pythias lodge and to the Switchmen's Union. He is deeply interested in affairs relating to the progress and improvement of the city and he believes in upholding those measures which are equitable to all alike. He does not believe in class distinction in the eyes of the law, but seeks at all times to further general good.

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### JOHN S. ELY

A man should never be judged by his modest estimate of himself and his accomplishments nor by the flattering opinion of friends, but rather by the consensus of public opinion, which judges and weighs his worth and his work. By this standard John S. Ely measures up to all the requirements of honorable manhood and progressive citizenship. Moreover, ever mindful of his obligations to his fellowmen, he is largely actuated by broad humanitarian principles in his relations with others and is ever ready to extend a helping hand where assistance is needed. Such qualities have gained for Mr. Ely recognition and classification with the most prominent citizens of Cedar Rapids.

Moreover, he is one of her native sons, his birth having occurred here on the 18th of November, 1853. His parents were John F. and Mary A. (Weare) Ely. His father was born in Rochester, New York, June 25, 1821. The grandparents Elisha and Hannah (Dickinson) Ely, both belonged to old New England families and the former came of Puritan ancestry, being a descendant of Nathaniel Ely, who in 1634 sailed from Ipswich, England, with a band of Pilgrims, who under the leadership of the Rev. Thomas Hooker sought religious liberty in the Massachusetts colony. He lived at different times at Cambridge, Massachusetts, at Hartford and Norwalk, Connecticut, and at Springfield, Massachusetts, taking up his abode at the last named place in 1659. Elisha Ely was born at West Springfield, Massachusetts, was liberally educated and soon after his marriage, in 1807, removed to Pittsfield, where he engaged in merchandising. In 1810 he went to Rochester, New York, where he began the development of the water power and erected the first flouring mill of that city. He was also a member of its first important mercantile firm, Bissell, Ely & Company and took active part in shaping the commercial, religious and moral history of the city. He and his wife were among the charter members of the First Presbyterian church. Mrs. Ely passed away in 1832 and the following year Elisha went to western Michigan, founded the town of Allegan, in which he spent his remaining days. He also took part in the public life of his adopted county and state, served for several terms as county



judge and was one of the first regents of the State University. At the time of the war of 1812 he held a captain's commission and with Colonel Isaac Stone's regiment participated in the defense of Rochester and afterward under General Scott was on active duty in Buffalo and vicinity.

Dr. Ely, an apt student and liberally educated, was qualified for college in his twelfth year, but at that time the mother's death occurred and the following year the family was broken up, the father with his three eldest sons going to Michigan and the younger boys to Massachusetts. Dr. Ely made his home with an aunt in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, and there attended an academy, where he was a classmate of Cyrus W. and Henry M. Field. He studied civil engineering and other special branches, which were of great service to him in his subsequent career. In 1836 he joined his father in Michigan, but after three years entered the employ of his uncle Hervey Ely, who then owned the largest mills in Rochester, New York. In 1841 he was again in his father's home and under the tutorship of a graduate of Williams College sought to prepare himself for the third term of the sophomore year in that college. At the same time he acted as deputy county clerk, deputy town clerk and also edited the Allegan Record. All this impaired his health, and, changing his plans, he took up the study of medicine. In the fall of 1845 he entered the office of Dr. Willard Parker, professor of surgery in the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York, in which institution he attended lectures and won his M. D. degree in March, 1848. His close application to his studies again impaired his health and he returned to the west for recuperation.

In October, 1848, Dr. Ely arrived in Cedar Rapids, then a town of three hundred population and with but one physician. He engaged in general practice and also had charge of a considerable estate left by his brother Alexander, including a flouring mill. Dr. Ely purchased this mill and also a sawmill, which he operated for some years with success. He also became largely interested in water power. In 1856 he became associated with his three brothers in the construction of a railroad from Marquette, Michigan, to the Lake Superior mine, this being the first railroad in the upper peninsula of Michigan. After six miles of the track were completed his brother Heman B. Ely died suddenly, in October, 1856. In July of that year congress made four grants of land to the state to aid in building railroads in that region. The Doctor spent two months during the winter of 1856-7 at Lansing, Michigan, and in connection with Lewis H. Morgan, attorney of Rochester, New York, succeeded in securing two of these grants. Prior to this the brothers had made a sale of their road to W. B. Ogden, then president of the Chicago, St. Paul & Fon du Lac Railroad. The terms of sale provided that Dr. Ely should go to Marquette the following season and complete the road, and his previously acquired knowledge of civil engineering now proved of untold value in railroad construction. Beginning the work in June, 1857, in less than three months it was completed and accepted. Soon afterward the Chicago, Iowa & Nebraska Railroad Company was organized to build the line from Clinton to Cedar Rapids and in this Dr. Ely became a large stockholder and a director of the company, giving of his time and labor toward the completion of this, the first railroad to reach the city. Afterward he was connected with the Iowa Falls & Sioux City Railroad, but before the completion of these lines war was inaugurated between the north and the south, and in August, 1862, Dr. Ely was commissioned surgeon of the Twenty-fourth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. In February, 1863, he was made surgeon of General Clinton B. Fiske's brigade and later became division surgeon of the Twelfth Division of the Thirteenth Army Corps, under General Alvin P. Hovey. He performed a very arduous service in Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana and in June, 1863, ill health compelled him to resign. After a few years spent in rest and recuperation he again became actively engaged in railroad work. He was one of the organizers of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Minnesota Rail-





way Company in 1868 and for some years was its vice president and treasurer, during which time the road was completed from Burlington to Nora Springs on the main line, with branches from Cedar Rapids to Decorah, to Muscatine, to Iowa City and to Traer. Thus Dr. Ely became connected with the construction of about five hundred miles of track in this state, and Cedar Rapids owes much to him, for his labors made it an important railroad center. He was also vice president and one of the principal stockholders of the St. Louis, Hannibal & Keokuk Railroad built in Missouri by Cedar Rapids parties. He served on the directorate of the First National and the Union Savings Banks of Cedar Rapids, and few public enterprises of the city have not felt the stimulus of his cooperation and support. He was appointed by the governor as treasurer of the State Agricultural College and thus served for a year.

In politics Dr. Ely was a stalwart republican and was deeply interested in the questions and issues of the day, but without political ambition. Aside from his business he preferred to give his time and attention to work along charitable, educational and religious lines and no good work done in the name of charity or religion sought his aid in vain. In all this he was ably assisted by his wife. He was one of the first trustees named by Daniel Coe in 1853 to invest a conditional donation of fifteen hundred dollars in the purchase of lots and lands for the foundation of Coe College. He made the purchase of the lots in his own name and deeded the same to the college when the funds came from Mr. Coe. He was thereafter continued a member of the board of trustees. In 1865 he became senior elder of the First Presbyterian church, of which his wife was one of the original members.

It was on the 17th of January, 1853, that Dr. Ely wedded Mary A. Weare, of this city, and the only surviving member of their family is John S. Ely, whose name introduces this review. He was born on the 18th of November, 1853, and after attending the common schools pursued a classical course in Princeton College, from which he was graduated in 1877 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. During the following two years he was engaged in mining in Utah, and at the end of that time returned to Cedar Rapids, where he has since made his home. His initial step in the business world made him an employe of the Williams Harvester Works and since that time various interests have claimed his attention and have profited by his capable direction. He is now devoting his attention largely to the real-estate business and is also serving as treasurer of the Cedar Rapids & Marion City Railway Company, with which he has been connected since its inception and has continuously held office therein. In his real-estate operations he has negotiated many important property transfers and as the years have passed by his careful manipulations of his business affairs have brought him substantial success.

Mr. Ely, however, has not confined his attention alone to those interests which result in material profit, but has worked as well along lines that develop the character, that promote progressive citizenship and contribute to the betterment of mankind. He has been especially interested in Coe College, of which he is a trustee and secretary of the board, and he also holds the same office in connection with the Young Men's Christian Association and Home for Aged Women. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he is deeply interested in the vital questions and issues of the day.

In 1881 Mr. Ely was married in Cedar Rapids to Miss Bessie E. Shaver, a native of Vinton, Iowa, and a daughter of I. H. Shaver, of Cedar Rapids. Their family numbers two sons and two daughters, John M., Mary Esther, Frederick S. and Martha W. The family attend the First Presbyterian church, of which the parents are members, Mr. Ely having been an active trustee for nearly twenty years. Mrs. Ely is an active worker in church societies and also in the ladies' literary societies of this city. Mr. Ely belongs to the Sons of Veterans and to the Loyal Legion and is interested in all organizations and movements which promote





a patriotic loyalty to city, state and nation. His efforts have long been directed in those channels through which flows the greatest good to the greatest number, and with recognition of the brotherhood of mankind he has labored earnestly and effectively for the benefit of his fellowmen.

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### FRANK FALTIS

On the list of Linn county's honored dead appears the name of Frank Faltis, who was numbered among the citizens of foreign birth, for he was born in Bohemia, March 19, 1848, a son of Joseph and Josephine Faltis. After reaching manhood he decided to try his fortune in the new world and accordingly crossed the Atlantic to the United States, the year 1890 witnessing his arrival in Linn county. Here he purchased eighty acres of land, located on section 24, Fairfax township, and took up the work of development and improvement, placing his fields under a high state of cultivation. On the farm is seen a good country residence, in the rear of which are substantial outbuildings for the care of grain and stock. Mr. Faltis became very successful in his business affairs and from the time of his arrival here until the date of his death, March 10, 1909, he was identified with agricultural pursuits, being classed with the substantial citizens of this section of the state.

It was prior to his emigration to the new world that Mr. Faltis was married in his native land, the lady of his choice being Miss Tracey Martinetz, their wedding being celebrated in November, 1871. Eight children were born of this union, the family record being as follows: Mrs. Anna Hubeck, a resident of Cedar Rapids; Joseph, who at the age of thirty-four years is a contractor in Cedar Rapids; Frank, who at the age of thirty-two is managing the farm for his mother; John, who is twenty-nine years of age and is a farmer of South Dakota; Rudolph, who at the age of twenty-seven is a building contractor in Montana; William, who is a young man of twenty-four years and still on the home farm; and Libbie and Tracey, aged respectively twenty-two and twenty years, still with their mother. The family belong to the Catholic church.

Mr. Faltis was most loyal to the interests of his adopted country, being an active participant in much of the progress that was here carried forward from year to year. Coming to this country ignorant of the customs and language of American people, he soon adapted himself to his new surroundings and as the years passed met with gratifying success, leaving to his family a good farming property.

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### HON. JAMES WILLIAM GOOD

Hon. James William Good, a distinguished Cedar Rapids attorney, serving for the second term as representative from his district in congress, is a native of Monroe township, Linn county, born September 24, 1866, and is of German lineage. When the good ship Thistle, in command of Captain John Wilson, from Rotterdam, sailed by way of Plymouth, England, to Philadelphia, she brought as one of her passengers Lorentz Guth, or Good, who was emigrating from Rheinfels, Germany, to the new world. The vessel dropped anchor in the harbor of Philadelphia on the 19th of September, 1738, and Lorentz Good settled on the banks of Jordan creek. The site of his old homestead is still owned by one of his descendants. The dwelling which now shelters the seventh generation of the family was built with massive walls two feet thick and was designed to serve the



double purpose of home and fort, that the family and neighbors might be protected from attack by prowling Indian bands. Lorentz Good added from time to time to his holdings until he became the owner of an estate of nearly one thousand acres. His death occurred in 1782, after a residence in America of forty-four years. This rugged old German pioneer was a man of religious convictions and built and gave to the congregation the Jordan Reformed church, together with fifty acres of land. This first church was constructed of logs with the earth for a floor and the pews were made from split logs resting on wooden pegs driven into the ground. But it sheltered a devout band of people who gathered each Sunday for worship. The founder of the Good family in America thus became also the founder of the Jordan Reformed church.

Henry Good, the grandfather of Hon. James W. Good, married Lydia Stoney and their son, Henry Good, Jr., became one of the pioneer settlers of Linn county, Iowa. He wedded Margaret Combs, a daughter of Thomas and Lorana (Harrison) Combs, who were natives of Indiana and Kentucky respectively. They came to Linn county among its early residents, arriving in 1841, in which year they took up their abode in Marion township.

James W. Good, beginning his education at the usual age, attended the Center school in Monroe township until he entered upon a preparatory course in Coe College, Cedar Rapids, in 1885. He continued through the regular college course and was graduated in the class of 1892 with the Bachelor of Science degree. Previous to his graduation he had read law and the following autumn he passed the required examination that secured him admission to the law school of the University of Michigan, from which he was graduated with the class of 1893, receiving at that time the LL. B. degree. He entered and won the competitive contest for class orator and was elected orator of the class of 1893.

Following his graduation Mr. Good was admitted to the bar and practiced law in Indianapolis, Indiana, through the succeeding three years. In 1896 he returned to Cedar Rapids and entered into partnership with Charles J. Deacon under the firm style of Deacon & Good. Later Amor H. Sargent and Harrison E. Spangler were admitted to the firm and the name was changed to Deacon, Good, Sargent & Spangler. From the beginning of his connection with the Cedar Rapids bar Mr. Good has made continuous progress and has long occupied a position of distinction as one of the leading representatives of the legal profession of this city.

Mr. Good has been a lifelong republican and his party in 1906 elected him to the office of city attorney, in which position he served until 1908. His most important work in this connection was the conduct of the litigation in the famous gas controversy in which he won a decision favorable to Cedar Rapids. The ability which he displayed as city attorney and his well known devotion to the public interests led to his selection, in 1908, as the republican nominee for representative of the fifth Iowa district to the sixty-first congress. Again he was elected and in 1910 he was unanimously chosen for a second term, so that he is now a member of the national legislative council.

On the 4th of October, 1894, Mr. Good was married to Miss Lucy Deacon, a daughter of Charles J. and Sylvia (Mansfield) Deacon, and a granddaughter of Dr. Eber L. Mansfield, one of Cedar Rapids' pioneer settlers and a most prominent physician of his day. Her maternal grandmother, Mrs. Lucy A. (Warri-ner) Mansfield, was a direct descendant of William Warriner, who came from Yorkshire, England, in 1638, and was among the first settlers of Springfield, Massachusetts, his descendants having a prominent place in subsequent New England history, participating actively in the colonial and Revolutionary wars and in events which have shaped the civil annals of the country. Mrs. Good is a member of the Cedar Rapids Art Club and is prominent socially. On the 26th of September, 1910, there was born to Mr. and Mrs. Good a son, James W., Jr.



Their home at No. 1905 B avenue is among the finest of Cedar Rapids' handsome residences.

Mr. Good belongs to the Cedar Rapids Country Club and the Cedar Rapids Commercial Club. He also holds membership in the First Presbyterian church and has attained the thirty-second degree in Masonry. He belongs to the Iowa Bar Association and is a genial, generous, popular gentleman, numbered among Linn county's most successful native sons. By his own merit he has risen to a position of prominence, his broad Americanism, his sympathetic understanding of the perplexing problems of human society, his abiding sense of justice and his deep insight into the vital relations of our complex civilization have already won for him the admiration and esteem not only of the people of his home community but also of those with whom he has come into contact through mutual connection with national interests.

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### CHARLES F. BUTLER

A native of Linn county, Charles F. Butler has continued to reside here and since reaching manhood has been actively and prominently identified with the business interests of the county and is now president of the Springville Exchange Bank. He was born on the old homestead in Brown township, December 8, 1857, and is a son of Joseph S. and Maria L. (Reneau) Butler. His father was born in Gallipolis, Ohio, on the 28th of December, 1821, and was a son of Colonel Isaac Butler, who was born in Kentucky of Irish parentage and won his title as commander of a regiment of militia that was stationed at Fort Dearborn, now Chicago, Illinois, in 1836. In 1828 the family removed to Louisville, Kentucky, three years later went to Cass county, Michigan, and in 1835 to Racine, Wisconsin. It was in 1840 that Colonel Butler became a resident of Linn county, Iowa, and here his descendants have since made their home. He was the first postmaster and the first justice of the peace of Springville, which town was laid out by his son Joseph S., who also laid out the road from Marion, the county seat of Linn county, to Anamosa, Iowa.

Being nineteen years of age when the family located here, Joseph S. Butler assisted in the improvement and cultivation of the home farm and he hauled the lumber from Davenport to build the old hotel on the west side of Springville. On leaving the parental roof in 1850 he went to Anamosa, Iowa, where he formed a partnership with a gentleman and engaged in the manufacture of cultivators and fanning mills for four years. At the end of that time he returned to Linn county and for several years devoted his attention to farming and stock-raising and also dealt in real estate. From 1862 until 1876 he was also interested in the grain and stock business and two years later established the Springville Exchange Bank, with a capital stock of twenty-five thousand dollars, which he conducted in connection with his farming and stock-raising interests. The bank was located in the old town on the south side of Big creek until 1881, when it was removed to its present location in the new town. His son Charles F. subsequently became a member of the firm and on the death of the father, December 31, 1898, the son took charge of the business.

Joseph S. Butler was married July 14, 1854, to Miss Maria L. Reneau, a native of Indianapolis, Indiana, and a daughter of Jesse Reneau, who was born in Tennessee of French ancestry and was married in that state. Some years later he removed to Indiana and subsequently became one of the early settlers of Linn county, Iowa. Of the three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Butler, A. J. died January 1, 1876, when nearly twenty years of age, and Lurman died in infancy, the only one now living being Charles F., of this review.





The father took a very active and prominent part in public affairs and in politics was a Jeffersonian democrat. He held a number of public offices of honor and trust and during the Civil war raised a company, which was organized as Company H, Twenty-fourth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. In religious faith he was a Presbyterian and not only supported that church but contributed liberally toward the erection of the Methodist Episcopal church of Springville. He was a Knight Templar Mason, belonging to Springville Lodge, Marion Chapter and Patmos Commandery. At his death he was laid to rest with Masonic honors. In 1881 he established the Springville New Era, which he conducted for some time. He was a man of unusual business ability and exerted his influence for the moral and material development of the community in which he lived.

Being reared on the home farm, eighty rods south of Springville, Charles F. Butler obtained his early education in the public schools of Springville and later attended Cornell College at Mount Vernon for two years. After putting aside his text-books he returned home and for some time devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits and the stock business. As before stated, he subsequently became a member of the firm owning the Springville Exchange Bank and on the death of his father became president of the same. The capital stock has been increased from time to time until now the bank has the largest capital of any in the county outside of Cedar Rapids. Mr. Butler is still extensively interested in farm land and in connection with its operation he is also engaged in raising stock, fattening several carloads of cattle annually.

On the old homestead in Brown township, where his parents were married and where he was born, Mr. Butler was married on Christmas day, 1882, to Miss Clara Burger, who was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, but at an early day was brought to Linn county, Iowa, by her father, Abraham Burger. She was also a student at Mount Vernon for a time. On the home farm they began their domestic life and there their only child, Margaret Josephine, was born. Subsequently they took up their abode in Springville, where the daughter attended school, being graduated from the high school of that place in June, 1901.

Fraternally Mr. Butler is an honored member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge of Springville, of which he is past chancellor, having filled all the chairs in the same and represented the lodge in the grand lodge of the state. By his ballot he usually supports the men and measures of the democratic party but, being in favor of a gold standard, he voted for President McKinley in 1896 and again in 1900. He has ever taken an active and commendable interest in public affairs but has had no desire for official honors, preferring to devote his time and attention to his business interests. He gave to Springville the beautiful park, containing seven acres, which is said to be the handsomest natural park in the state of Iowa. He was one of the principal promoters of the water works system of Springville and owns a large share of the stock. A man of good business ability and sound judgment, he has met with excellent success in his undertakings and has so conducted his affairs that he has won the confidence and esteem of all those with whom he has been brought in contact during business or social life.

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#### THOMAS READ WARRINER

Thomas Read Warriner, a civil engineer of Cedar Rapids, was born at North Adams, Jefferson county, New York, on the 11th of August, 1869. His birthplace was the same house in which his father was born on the 27th of April, 1827, and where he resided until about seventeen years ago, when he retired and took up his abode in the village of Adams. The ancestry of the family can be traced back to William Warriner, who came from Yorkshire, England, and joined the early set-



blers of Springfield, Mass., in 1638. The following year he married Joanna Seant and they became the parents of Deacon James Warriner, who was the first American born of the Warriner ancestors. William Warriner owned a considerable part of what is now the heart of the city of Springfield, Massachusetts. He was among the earliest residents of that section of the state and had made his home there for thirty-eight years when his death occurred June 2, 1676. Among his descendants who have gained places in colonial and later history were Ensign James Warriner and Captain James Warriner, who commanded the first soldiers from Wilbraham in the Revolutionary war when, aroused by the news of the firing upon of Lexington, he led a company of militia to the defense of American liberty. His son, Solomon Warriner, joined the Continental army at Bennington, serving in Colonel Pynchon's regiment in 1777. Lieutenant Noah Warriner served with the army that besieged Boston after the Lexington alarm, and his youngest daughter, Dolly, married Colonel Warren Lincoln, a member of the same family as President Abraham Lincoln.

Deacon James Warriner, the son of William Warriner and the founder of the family in America, was born at Springfield, Massachusetts, November 21, 1640. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Baldwin, the first settler of Milford, Massachusetts. He was one of the founders and a deacon of the First Congregational church of Springfield, and in other ways took a prominent part in the early history of that city. He was also a member of the volunteer company formed to protect the settlers from Indian raids and his name appears on the list of soldiers of King Phillip's war. He possessed considerable property and was one of the first grantors of a formal deed in Hampden county. His death occurred May 14, 1727. His son, Benjamin Warriner, was born at Springfield, Massachusetts, April 15, 1698, and married Lucy Bartlett. He died January 22, 1764, and a time-worn tombstone in the old cemetery in Wilbraham marks his last resting place. Israel Warriner, the son of Benjamin, was born at Ludlow, Massachusetts, May 19, 1742, and became a prominent factor in community affairs, serving as selectman at Ludlow for seven years. He afterward removed to Oneida county, New York, and later to Adams Center in the same state, where he engaged in farming up to the time of his death on the 26th of March, 1810. He wedded Mary Hitchcock, and their family included Calvin Warriner, who was born in Ludlow, Massachusetts, April 4, 1784, and when sixteen years of age removed with his parents to Oneida county, New York. In 1823 he married Mrs. Abiah Rice, a daughter of Roger and Lydia Read, of Bennington, Vermont. His death occurred at North Adams, New York, April 8, 1858. Parley Ephraim Warriner, son of Calvin Warriner, and the father of Thomas Read Warriner, was born, as previously stated, at North Adams, Jefferson county, New York. There he resided until about seventeen years ago, when he retired and took up his abode in the village of Adams. He has for many years, however, divided his time between New York and Cedar Rapids. He made his first trip to this city in 1860. He has frequently visited Cedar Rapids, remaining here at times as long as a year and a half. He is widely known in this city and enjoys the high respect and good will of all with whom he has been brought in contact. In politics he is a republican but has never been an office seeker. He married Sarah E. Ward on the 26th of December, 1861, and she is still living at the age of seventy-seven years. They have four children: Jennie May; Thomas Read; Frances, who died in infancy; and Sarah Abiah.

Thomas R. Warriner spent his youthful days in his father's home, pursuing his education in the public schools of his home locality and in the Watertown (N. Y.) high school, from which he was graduated with the class of 1887. In September, 1888, he came to Cedar Rapids and devoted two years to the preparatory course in Coe College. In 1890 he returned to the east and entered Cornell University, from which he was graduated in 1893 with the degree of Civil Engineer. For a year thereafter he was in ill health. In the spring of 1895 he came to Cedar





Rapids and formed a partnership under the firm name of Boynton & Warriner, civil engineers, which relation existed until 1899, since which time Mr. Warriner has continued the business independently. In 1896 he was elected county surveyor of Linn county, serving for two years, and in 1902 he was elected by the council of Cedar Falls, Iowa, city engineer of that city, in which capacity he served for four years, retaining his residence, however, in Cedar Rapids. From 1906 until 1908 he served as city engineer of Cedar Rapids, his professional ability well qualifying him for the onerous and responsible duties which devolved upon him in that connection. His business is an extensive one and he has gained a reputation as a capable civil engineer that extends beyond the confines of Iowa. He gives his attention principally to municipal work.

In 1901 Mr. Warriner was united in marriage to Miss Annette L. Harwood, of Cedar Rapids, a daughter of Franklin W. Harwood, who is now deputy clerk of the United States district court but was formerly a member of the Mower-Harwood Creamery Company, dealers in creamery supplies. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Warriner have been born three children, Harwood, Robert Read and Janette.

In his political views Mr. Warriner is a republican. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, of the Kappa Sigma fraternity and of the Iowa Engineering Society, of which he is now the president, his election thereto being an indication of his high standing in the regard of his fellow members of the profession. He is also a member of the Cedar Rapids Country Club and the Cedar Rapids Commercial Club, and takes a deep interest in all movements for the benefit and upbuilding of the city. The family attend the First Presbyterian church.

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#### GEORGE NYERE

No matter in how much fantastic theorizing one may indulge as to the cause of success, it is definitely known that business advancement has its root in earnest, persistent and intelligent effort. An analyzation of the life record of George Nyere shows that his progress has been made by reason of those qualities and he has thus won the proud American title of a self-made man.

Cedar Rapids numbers him among her native sons. He was here born September 26, 1857, and is a son of Stephen Nyere, a native of Budapest, Hungary, who came to America in company with the distinguished General Louis Kossuth. He was a son of a wealthy and prominent family of Budapest and following the custom of his country, and not through necessity, he learned the trade of tailoring ere leaving his native land. On arriving in the United States he settled in Newark, New Jersey, where he engaged in business as a merchant tailor, remaining there for several years. In 1854, however, he decided to establish his home in the west and so came to Cedar Rapids but had to make the trip overland from Dubuque in a wagon train.

After arriving in this city he was employed on the construction of the first mill race and dam at Cedar Rapids, but after a short time he again took up merchant tailoring, in which business he continued until 1883, or until his death, which occurred on the 20th of September of that year. During the Civil war Mr. Nyere made frequent attempts to enlist in the Union army, but, owing to his weight of two hundred and sixty pounds, was not accepted. He married Miss Katherine Webber, of Wittenberg, Germany, who passed away on the 19th of March, 1910, and both were buried at Cedar Rapids. They were the parents of the following children, all of whom are yet living, namely: Stephen; George; Joseph; Augustus; Louis; John; Mary, who is now Mrs. Ren Reichert, of Chicago; Anna; Hannah; Mrs. Katie Onson, of Cedar Rapids; Margaret, the wife of Charles Bessler.





of Kansas; and Emma, also of Cedar Rapids. The three brothers, August, John and Louis, constitute the leading firm of plumbers in this city, while Joseph is foreman of the Rock Island Railroad shops at Davenport and Stephen is a master painter of Kansas City, Missouri.

The family was large and the father's income comparatively small and because of this George Nyere early in life was forced to start out and earn his own living. His father could ill afford the cost of books so that after a short period in the public schools he had no further educational advantages save that in the school of experience he has learned many valuable lessons, becoming at length a practical and well informed business man. He began to work as a washer in the bottle works of Cedar Rapids and was thus employed for several months, after which he secured a situation in the local brickyards. There he remained for four years and later was employed in a furniture factory. On the 27th of April, 1875, he decided to learn the trade of blacksmithing. At that time the firm of Soule & Miller occupied space directly opposite the present shop of Mr. Nyere. He entered the employ of that firm and remained with them for six years, earning seventy-five cents per day during that time. By the strictest economy he contrived to save the sum of two hundred dollars and with that meager amount, on the 16th of November, 1881, he opened his present shop. His business has steadily grown until it is today one of the largest of the kind in Cedar Rapids, employment being continuously furnished to nine men.

On the 7th of October, 1879, Mr. Nyere was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Correll, of Berks county, Pennsylvania. They became the parents of two children, Mabel Louise Kelly and George L. Nyere, both of whom were liberally educated. The father, because of his own lack in that direction, realized fully the value of educational training. The son is now one of the well known and successful attorneys of Portland, Oregon, removing to the west after practicing law for four years at Cedar Rapids. He is a graduate of Notre Dame University and was also for two years a pupil in the New York Military Academy. The daughter, Mabel, is a graduate of Wellesley College and for two years attended a well known young ladies' academy of New York.

Mr. Nyere is independent in politics. He keeps well informed on questions of the day but does not desire to ally himself with any particular party. Fraternally he is connected with Mount Hermon Lodge, A. F. & A. M., the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Pythias. He has been identified with the last named for more than twenty-eight years and his life is in harmony with the teachings of the craft. Diligence and determination have constituted the keynote of his character and have brought him the enviable position which he now occupies in business circles in Cedar Rapids.

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#### DAVID ILGENFRITZ

David Ilgenfritz, who has continuously resided within the borders of Linn county for the past fifty-five years, has followed general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career and is the owner of a well improved and valuable farm of two hundred and thirteen and one-fourth acres in Brown and Linn townships. His birth occurred in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, on the 8th of February, 1844, his parents being David and Elizabeth (Shoop) Ilgenfritz, who were likewise natives of the Keystone state. The year 1855 witnessed their arrival in this county and for ten years they made their home in Mount Vernon. On the expiration of that period the father purchased a farm in Marion township and resided thereon until called to his final rest in 1875. His wife, surviving him for a number of years, passed away in 1886. Unto them were born six children,



namely: David, of this review; Barbara, the wife of William Bolton, of South Dakota; Elizabeth, who is the wife of Joseph Reaser and makes her home in Kansas; and three who are deceased.

David Ilgenfritz was educated in the common schools and remained at home until he had attained his majority. He then rented a tract of land and operated a thresher for several years. Subsequently he bought forty acres of the farm on which he now resides and later made additional purchase until his land holdings embrace two hundred and thirteen and one-fourth acres in Brown and Linn townships. The place is lacking in none of the improvements and accessories of a model farm of the twentieth century, and in connection with the tilling of the soil Mr. Ilgenfritz has also made a specialty of the raising of hogs and horses, meeting with success in both branches of his business.

In 1869 Mr. Ilgenfritz was united in marriage to Miss Anna Bolton, who was born in West Virginia in 1845, her parents being Noah and Elizabeth Bolton, both of whom passed away in Linn county. Mrs. Ilgenfritz was one of a family of six children and by her marriage has become the mother of eight, as follows: Fadella, the wife of Elmer Wilson, of Poweshiek county, Iowa; Frederick, living in this county; Bertha, at home; Minnie, the wife of Fred Nicholas, of Linn county; Maude, who gave her hand in marriage to Charles Riger, and likewise resides in this county; Delila, the wife of Elmer Platenburger, of this county; Mary, who wedded O. Clarke and also makes her home in Linn county; and Nora, the wife of Fred Woods.

Mr. Ilgenfritz is a staunch republican in his political views but the honors and emoluments of office have never had any attraction for him. Both he and his wife are consistent members of the Presbyterian church, exemplifying its teachings in their daily lives. The circle of their friends is a wide one, for they have ever displayed those sterling traits of character which in every land and clime win confidence and regard.

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### WENSEL POSPISHIL

Wensel Pospishil, whose life of activity finds visible proof in his attractive home, situated in the midst of a farm of twenty acres about three miles from Cedar Rapids, has for thirty-one years been connected with the Rock Island Railroad Company, filling the position at the present time of section foreman between Linn Junction and Cedar Rapids. He was born in Bohemia on the 15th of May, 1859, and is one of five living children — Joseph, John, Anna, Mrs. Mary Pesek and Wensel — whose parents were Joseph and Anna Pospishil, farming people of Bohemia. They remained residents of their native land until about 1864, when they emigrated to the new world, settling in Johnson county, Iowa, where the father again took up general agricultural pursuits.

Wensel Pospishil was but five years of age at the time of the emigration to the United States. Owing to the limited financial resources of the father he had to begin work in early boyhood. His educational opportunities were in consequence very limited but in the school of experience he has learned many lessons that have taught him the value of industry, determination and resolute will. He learned that a fixed and unalterable purpose, pursued under all circumstances, in season and out of season, with no shadow of turning, is the best motive power a man can have. Such a purpose has imbued him in his entire life.

Prompted by laudable ambition, he has worked his way upward through the period of his connection with the Rock Island Railroad Company, which began when he was but a boy and which has brought him ultimately to his present position of responsibility as section foreman between Linn Junction and Cedar Rapids.



Through hard work and with the assistance of his wife he was at length enabled to purchase property, becoming the owner of a home in Cedar Rapids, which some time ago he traded for his present attractive home, which is situated about three miles from the city. It is a pleasant and comfortable residence, surrounded by good farm buildings in the midst of twenty acres of fine land. The place is being superintended by his wife, while Mr. Pospishil still holds his position with the railroad company.

It was on the 26th of September, 1882, that he was united in marriage to Miss Josephine S. Enderlen, a daughter of Ignacius and Anna Enderlen, whose family numbered five children, namely: Mrs. Pospishil, Miss Mary Blaha, Mrs. Christine Rubek, Mrs. Stacey Jondera and Joseph. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Pospishil have been born six children: Mrs. Emma Neckerka, who is married and has two children, William and Esther; Stacy Dutch, a resident of North Dakota; Mrs. Barbara Stinarn, who has one child, Helen; William, a resident of Portland, Oregon; Lydia and Wesley, both at home. The family attend the Evangelical church. The life record of Mr. Pospishil is a commendable one and proves that honorable success has its root in persistent, earnest effort and faithful service.

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### JOSEPH ZAHRADNIK

Among the Bohemian citizens of Linn county who are winning success along agricultural lines is numbered Joseph Zahradnik, who is now living on section 8, Putnam township, where he carries on general farming and stock-raising. He was born in Bohemia, March 2, 1857, and is the only son of Joseph and Katherine (Jukl) Zahradnik, who were farming people in their native country. They arrived in Putnam township, Linn county, on the 10th of August, 1867, and settled upon a tract of forty acres of land, which constitutes a part of the present farm of their son Joseph. Only about two acres of the land had been cleared and were ready for cultivation. Their home was a little log cabin, containing but one room, and this the family occupied until a more commodious and substantial residence could be erected. The parents were in limited financial circumstances but possessed laudable ambition and firm purpose and upon those qualities as a foundation builded their success. For five years Mr. Zahradnik used a yoke of oxen in working the land. In course of time his acres were converted into productive fields and he was able to enjoy many more of the comforts of life than he could obtain during the early period of his residence here. He continued to make his home in Linn county until his death, which occurred February 18, 1890, when he was in his seventieth year, his birth having occurred November 17, 1820. His wife, who was born October 17, 1822, died on the 3d of August, 1902, when in her eightieth year.

Joseph Zahradnik, whose name introduces this record, was a lad of ten years when he crossed the Atlantic with his parents and came with them to Linn county, where he has since made his home. In his youthful days he experienced the usual hardships and trials of pioneer life in the little log cabin home which the family occupied. He attended the public schools through the winter months until fourteen years of age and through the summer seasons worked on his father's farm. After reaching the age of fourteen his entire attention was given to farm work and more and more largely the care and management of the place devolved upon him. He has owned the farm since 1877, his property now comprising two hundred and two acres of rich and valuable land situated on section 8, Putnam township. He carries on general farming and stock-raising, the latter being an important feature of his place. He makes a specialty of sheep, having about





one hundred and twenty-five head. He also keeps fifteen milk cows and sells cream to the Ely Creamery.

On the 1st of May, 1877, Mr. Zahradnik was united in marriage to Miss Anna Koutny, of College township, a daughter of Joseph and Theresa (Tichy) Koutny, early settlers of the county, where they established their home in 1861 on coming to the new world from Bohemia. The mother now spends the summer months in Ely and the winter seasons at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Zahradnik. She is yet enjoying good health although she has passed the eighty-fourth milestone on life's journey, her birth having occurred on the 13th of February, 1826. Mr. Koutny, who was born in 1834, passed away in 1887. Their daughter, Mrs. Zahradnik, was born August 28, 1857, and by her marriage has become the mother of nine children, of whom two daughters died in infancy. The others are: Anna, who was born August 24, 1879, and is now Mrs. Anton Holec, of Putnam township; Joseph J., who was born January 15, 1883; Mary, who was born October 16, 1884, and is now the wife of John Kriz, of College township; Libbie, who was born November 16, 1887; Anastasia, born May 2, 1890; Frank A., June 6, 1894; and Henry J., June 6, 1897.

In his political views Mr. Zahradnik is a democrat and is serving as township trustee at the present time. He is holding the office for the second term and discharges his duties with promptness and fidelity. He has also been justice of the peace and was school treasurer for fifteen years and school director for four years. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend and his interest in the welfare of the community is manifested by his loyalty in the discharge of every duty which has devolved upon him in an official capacity. Fraternally he is connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen at Ely and he belongs to the Bohemian Reformed Evangelical church. In his business affairs he has prospered because of the close attention which he gives to his work, and his energy and enterprise make him one of the representative men of the community.

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#### CARLE D. BROWN

One of the native sons of Iowa who has won success in his business affairs is Carle D. Brown, now secretary, treasurer and manager of the Commercial Art Press and the Commercial Art Engravers. He was born in Webster City, Iowa, on the 22d of September, 1876, and is a son of William John and Ida Florence (Branch) Brown, both of whom are still living, being now residents of Cedar Rapids. The father is a sign writer by trade and for some years was employed in the internal revenue department of the government.

After attending the public schools, Carle D. Brown learned the printer's trade in the Freeman office at Webster City, at which he worked for four years on a country newspaper and then went on the road as salesman for an advertising firm. He was next engaged in the advertising business on his own account for three years in southwestern Missouri and from 1901 to 1903 was employed on the Cedar Rapids Gazette. The following year he became general manager of the printing department of the Interstate Schools of Cedar Rapids and was connected therewith until April, 1908, when he formed the company of which he is now secretary and treasurer.

At that time they purchased the plant of which he had previously been manager and in 1909 bought out the Alden Engraving Company and have since operated them both. Being thoroughly familiar with the business in all its departments, Mr. Brown has made a success of this venture and today has a splendidly equipped plant which can equal in quality and price any work done in Chicago along the same lines. His artistic skill and ability is manifest in the





CARLE D. BROWN



work turned out and much of the success of the company is due to his untiring efforts.

On the 17th of December, 1902, Mr. Brown was united in marriage to Miss Mina L. Averill of Cedar Rapids, and they now have a little daughter, Caryl Susan. Mr. Brown has for some time been identified with the Commercial Club of Cedar Rapids, is a member of the State Historical Society and secretary of the Civic Improvement Club.

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### ORPHEUS L. KELLEY

A little thoughtful consideration of the career of Orpheus L. Kelley, one of the proprietors of the Grand Hotel, brings one to the conclusion that he has in most of his business operations been impelled by the spirit of the pioneer. He has sought out new plans and new conditions likely to favor his projects and after he has made them available and profitable he has sought out still others and after those, others. The wisdom of his selection has been proven by the success which has crowned his efforts. He is thoroughly conversant with all the details of good hotel keeping and, operating as a member of the firm of Kelley & Sprague, he is maintaining an excellent hostelry in his conduct of the Grand Hotel.

Mr. Kelley is a native of New England, his birth having occurred in Derby, Orleans county, Vermont, on the 14th of January, 1860. He is a son of John and Malina (Roberts) Kelley, the former a native of St. Johnsbury, Vermont, and the latter of Sheffield, Vermont. When a young man the father drove a peddler's wagon through the country and after his marriage opened a store in Derby, Vermont, conducting one of the largest mercantile enterprises of that place. He acquired a very substantial competence but later met with financial reverses through speculation in hops. He died in Derby, and his widow still resides in Cedar Rapids at the age of eighty-four years.

Orpheus L. Kelley was reared under the parental roof, acquiring his education in the public schools. When about sixteen years of age he began to earn a salary as a potato buyer for a commission merchant of Providence, Rhode Island. He was given five hundred dollars and a horse and buggy and in this way he drove through Canada, buying potatoes. Later his father purchased a farm and the son remained upon the home farm until his twenty-first year, when he went to North Dakota and turned his attention to the agricultural implement business. He introduced into Lisbon the first agricultural implements ever taken into that city and remained in North Dakota for four years, during which time he was connected with various business interests. On the expiration of that period he returned home. His father was a dominant factor in the ranks of the democratic party but was too old to hold office, and Orpheus L. Kelley through his instrumentality was chosen for the office of government inspector of railroad baggage. Later he was made bookkeeper of impost and duties and served in that capacity for four years, after which he went to Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, where he received his initial training and experience as a hotel man, becoming steward for the Milwaukee Sanitarium, with which he was connected for two years. He then went to Chicago, where he was employed in the steward's department of the Grand Pacific Hotel for five years, after which he removed to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and became purchasing steward for the Hotel Pfister, buying all the produce for that hotel. There he remained for two years, after which he returned to Chicago.

In 1896 Mr. Kelley came to Cedar Rapids as steward of the Grand Hotel under Major H. M. Hamilton. Not long afterward he was made manager of the hotel and some four years later he purchased the Pullman House. The same fall he





went east and brought his brother and his family to Cedar Rapids and in connection with his brother John engaged in the fish business, but this venture proved unprofitable. For one summer thereafter Orpheus L. Kelley managed the Outing Club at Clear Lake and later was associated with Mr. Dalzel in the restaurant and ice cream business for two years. In 1906 he and C. O. Sprague purchased the Pullman House, borrowing the money for that purpose, but so successful were they in its conduct that after six months they were able to take up all the notes. On the 1st of March, 1908, they leased the Grand Hotel, which they have made one of the popular and attractive hostelries of Iowa. While Mr. Kelley failed in business in Cedar Rapids, he never took advantage of the bankruptcy law but paid dollar for dollar on all of his debts. In the field of hotel management he has been very successful and the firm of Kelley & Sprague now own over thirteen hundred acres of land in Minnesota and eight hundred acres in North Dakota near Bismarek, on which they are putting in a section of wheat in the present year, their land lying in the great wheat belt of the northwest. The Grand Hotel is one of the leading hostelries of this part of the state, while the Pullman is a popular chop house containing twenty-eight rooms.

Mr. Kelley was married in 1895, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to Miss Louise Friend, of Norwalk, Ohio, and to them have been born two daughters, Dorothy F. and Katherine L. Mr. Kelley belongs to Cedar Rapids Lodge, No. 251, B. P. O. E., and to the Maccabees tent at this place, while his political allegiance is given to the democratic party. He concentrates his attention largely upon the management of his business interests and in the control of interests relating to hotel conduct displays marked ability as well as undaunted enterprise. He has become widely known as one of the leading hotel men of Iowa — a reputation which is well deserved.

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#### GUY P. LINVILLE

Six years' connection with the bar of Linn county has established Mr. Linville's position as one of the able lawyers of Cedar Rapids. He is now accorded a large and distinctively representative clientage and in the presentation of his cause before the courts he gives proof of his comprehensive knowledge of the principles of jurisprudence.

A native of Mills county, Iowa, Guy P. Linville was born March 28, 1876, and is a son of Z. F. and Sarah E. (Davis) Linville, who were natives of Missouri and Iowa respectively. The father came to this state when seven years of age in company with his parents, who located in Mills county, where he was reared and educated. In due course of time he was graduated from Tabor College and following his graduation gave his attention to educational work for a few years. Later he engaged in general merchandising at Carson, Iowa, continuing in business at that place and at Hillsdale, Iowa, for twenty years, at the end of which time he retired to private life. He is still a valued resident of Carson, where he is held in the highest esteem by all who have known him.

The public schools of Carson afforded Guy P. Linville his early educational advantages and after a year devoted to teaching school he entered the Liberal Arts College of the State University, wherein he continued his studies for two years. He then accepted the position of high school teacher in Carson, acting for two years as assistant principal of the schools there and for a similar period as superintendent of schools. During the four summer seasons he took college work in Drake University of Des Moines, Iowa, and in the University of Chicago. Directing his energies into other professional lines, he entered the College of Law of the State University in preparation for the bar. He was graduated therefrom



with the class of 1904, since which time he has engaged in law practice in Linn county. While a law student he became a member of the national legal fraternity, Phi Delta Phi, and during his senior year held the office of counsel of McClain Chapter. He also took an active part in the debating societies while attending college and thus aided in developing his powers as an orator — powers which have been of incalculable value to him in his presentation of his cases before the courts. He entered upon the practice of law as a member of the firm of Gardner, Heald & Linville, the firm maintaining an office in Cedar Rapids and another at Center Point, Mr. Linville spending the greater part of his time in charge of the Center Point office. After a year or more the partnership was dissolved by the withdrawal of the senior member but the firm of Heald & Linville continued until the fall of 1908, when this association was also discontinued. Later Mr. Linville formed a partnership with W. L. Crissman and H. R. Churchill under the firm name of Crissman, Linville & Churchill and in that connection successfully engaged in the practice of law, a large and distinctively representative clientage being accorded him.

At the June primaries in 1910, Mr. Linville was nominated for the office of county attorney and should he be called to the office will undoubtedly prove a faithful official, for he is deeply interested in his profession and his progressive citizenship is a fact recognized by all. Fraternally he is connected with a number of orders, including the Masonic lodge, the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen, the Moose, and two of the ladies' auxiliaries of the above mentioned societies — the Eastern Star and the Pythian Sisters. He is in thorough sympathy with the purposes of the different organizations and conforms his life to their beneficent teachings.

On the 7th of November, 1907, Mr. Linville was married to Miss Nellie Keevil, of Nashville, Tennessee, a daughter of Edward and Martha Keevil, also natives of Tennessee. They reside at No. 1609 Grand avenue in Cedar Rapids, where Mr. Linville owns a fine home, and in addition to this property he has other real-estate holdings in the city. Both he and his wife attend the Christian church and he is a member of the Cedar Rapids Country Club. He has attractive social qualities which render him popular in the various fraternal and social organizations with which he is allied and in his profession he is displaying an ability that is fast winning for him a place in the foremost ranks of the representatives of the Linn county bar.

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### LEROY WALLACE

Leroy Wallace, deceased, was one of the early contractors of Cedar Rapids, becoming identified with building operations in this city in 1858. He was then a young man of twenty-eight years and through the ensuing decades he made progress as time passed on and did a good business in his chosen field of labor. He was born in Vermont in 1830, a son of Austin and Amanda Wallace, who removed to Columbus, Ohio, when he was two years of age. His youthful days were spent in his parents' home and his educational privileges were those afforded by the schools of that city. His natural trend was along mechanical lines and because of this he turned his attention to carpentering, becoming a good workman. Believing that he would have better opportunities in the new and growing west, he made his way to Cedar Rapids in 1858 and here took up carpentering and contracting. The efficiency of his workmanship and his reliability in business affairs constituted the basis of his success, winning him a liberal patronage so that he was accorded a goodly share of the building that was carried on here. He promptly and faithfully executed his contracts, living up to the spirit as well



as the letter thereof, and throughout the community bore a reputation for reliability that was most enviable.

On the 1st of December, 1852, when a young man of twenty-two years, Leroy Wallace was united in marriage to Miss Mary Bertha Barnes, a daughter of Robert and Mary (Tucker) Barnes. Her father devoted his life to merchandising and died in Columbus, Ohio, where the family were living at the time of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace. Their union was blessed with a family of nine children. Robert A. married Kate Hughes and has two sons, Leroy Austin and John Hughes. Virginia is the wife of Frank Listenwaller, by whom she has one daughter, Bessie. Gertrude is still at home. Florence, who is the wife of Colon B. Leibkicher, is the mother of six children, Marie, Florence, Leroy, Wallace, Virginia and John. William married Alice McCormick and has four children, Winifred, Mary and Mildren, twins, and Alice. Mary Bertha is living at home, and Eurydice is a teacher in the public schools. Leroy and Lincoln are both deceased.

Mr. Wallace held membership in the Baptist church and was a firm believer in its teachings. He guided his life according to its principles and always endeavored to follow the golden rule, doing unto others as he would have them do unto him. His private life and his business record were therefore alike blameless. He took an active part in the development and improvement of the city throughout his activity in business affairs, continuing actively in contracting lines until his death, which occurred on the 20th of December, 1898.

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#### FRANCIS A. HEALD

Francis A. Heald, for five years a member of the Cedar Rapids bar, was born in McGregor, Iowa, July 3, 1876. His parents, Samuel W. and Julia E. (Shipley) Heald, were both natives of Baltimore, Maryland. On coming to this state in the fall of 1862 the father located at Iowa City and in 1865 entered the Methodist ministry. He began preaching at Blairstown, Iowa, and devoted his life to the work of the church until his death, which occurred in Osage, Iowa, in September, 1903. He had been an earnest and conscientious clergyman and the words of wisdom which he spoke bore fruit in the lives of others. For more than a decade he had survived his wife, who died in Fayette, Iowa, in 1892.

Because of the itinerant custom of the Methodist ministry, causing the removal of the family to various towns, Francis A. Heald acquired his education in the public schools of different places to the age of sixteen years, when he entered the Upper Iowa University at Fayette. There he studied for a year and at the age of twenty he became a student in Cornell College at Mount Vernon, Iowa, from which he was graduated with the class of 1900. In 1901 he accepted the position of secretary to Mr. Hunter, the warden of the Anamosa penitentiary, but his ambition was in the field of professional service and in 1902-3 he attended the College of Law at the State University of Iowa, from which he was graduated with the class of 1903. The following year he accepted the position of private secretary to S. R. Dawson, superintendent of the Damascus Steel Company, of New Brighton, Pennsylvania, and remained in that position until 1905, when he came to Cedar Rapids and entered upon the practice of law, becoming a partner in the firm of Gardener, Heald & Linville. They continued together until 1906, when Mr. Gardener withdrew, after which the firm of Heald & Linville practiced until December, 1908, when they, too, dissolved partnership. They had maintained a branch office at Center Point and for two years owned and conducted the Center Point Journal. Mr. Heald is now alone in practice. He is devoted to the interests of his clients, carefully prepares his cases, and presents his cause





in a strong and logical manner. The court records show that he has won many favorable verdicts and the court and jury always listen to him with attention. Aside from his law practice he is connected with the business interests of the city as secretary of the Eureka Stone & Ore Crusher Company.

Mr. Heald belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen Camp, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He has also taken the degrees of the Scottish Rite and of the Mystic Shrine in Masonry. In politics he is a republican and when made the candidate of his party for the office of county attorney in 1908, he was defeated by the small majority of forty-three votes. He began making campaign speeches in 1896 and has delivered many such addresses during presidential campaigns from that time to the present, the state central committee assigning him to such duty. During these campaigns he has spoken in twenty-three different counties in Iowa. In the campaign of 1910 he was chairman of the Linn county republican central committee and carefully systematized the party interests, putting forth an earnest effort to promote its success.

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### DAVID W. KING

While the history of Cedar Rapids is yet in the making, due credit must be accorded those who were the prominent factors in its early development and aided in shaping its history during its formative period. To this number belonged David W. King, a pioneer settler, who arrived in Linn county in the spring of 1839. As one travels over the state at the present time it is very difficult to imagine the conditions which existed in that early day. Much of the land in the state was still unclaimed and uncultivated, and the red men far outnumbered the white settlers. They roamed at will over the prairies hunting deer and having opportunity to capture much feathered game.

Mr. King had come to Iowa from Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, where his birth had occurred in 1808. After reaching adult age he was connected with mercantile pursuits there. In 1836, in his native state, he wedded Miss Mary Ann Singer, who was also born in Westmoreland county, January 6, 1817. Only a few railroad lines had then been constructed, travel being by way of stage, private conveyance or over the water ways. Mr. and Mrs. King made their way westward in a carriage with Michigan as their destination, and for three years they were residents of that state. Two children were born unto them during that period, and in the spring of 1839 Mr. King brought his little family to Iowa, making the journey across the prairies with an ox-team. Thomas Gainor and his family were also of the party. Mrs. King was the first white woman to cross the river at Cedar Rapids, Indian canoes being the only means of transportation at that time. The early abode of the family was a log cabin standing on the west bank of the river. The red men were seen in large numbers but on the whole manifested little hostility toward the white race as the latter extended civilization over the hunting grounds of their predecessors. The government claimed the ownership of almost all the land in this district and Mr. King entered a tract on the west side of Cedar river when it was placed upon the market. Early in the '40s he built the first ferry operated at Cedar Rapids, obtaining his material from Dubuque and Muscatine. The cable used was a wire which he brought by ox-team from the former city. At that time most farm products were rafted down the river to a point about opposite Muscatine and then conveyed by team to that city. As the years passed Mr. King invested more and more largely in real estate and in addition to his extensive property holdings in Cedar Rapids he also had about three sections of land in other parts of Linn county. In the



early '50s he laid out the town of Kingston upon his land and thereon has been built the west side of Cedar Rapids. Farming as well as real-estate operations claimed his attention but he was never too busy with individual interests to support the plans and movements instituted for the benefit and upbuilding of the city.

Mr. King was also greatly interested in the moral progress of the community with which he had identified his interests. Both he and his wife were devoted members of the Methodist church and took an active part in its work. In his house he built a large hall twenty-four by sixty feet, for church purposes, and therein religious services were held until churches were built. It was also the place of meeting for the Independent Order of Good Templars, Mr. and Mrs. King assisting in organizing the lodge in Cedar Rapids. He was likewise an earnest and exemplary Mason and was the first person buried under the auspices of the Masonic lodge in Cedar Rapids. The west side of the city was growing rapidly when he was called from this life, and up to that time he had been the chief factor in its improvement and its enterprise. He was justice of the peace and took keen and helpful interest in every project promoted for the public good. His death resulted from exposure while fighting a prairie fire and he passed away in 1854 when but forty-six years of age. There are comparatively few here who remember Mr. King, as a great majority have crossed the river to that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns. Yet the generation of the present has profited by his labors and his life record forms an important chapter in the annals of Cedar Rapids. Mrs. King died in 1902. Her father, Samuel Singer, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war and remained in Pennsylvania until his death. The daughter was one of the first pioneer women of this section and lived to witness the remarkable development of Cedar Rapids. The efforts required to live amid the ungenerous surroundings of the early days, the necessity to make every good count and to exercise every inventive faculty, developed forces of mind and habit which have established distinguished names along the banks of the Cedar river. Mrs. King could relate many interesting incidents of the early times as well as the story of later day progress, and her name should be engraved deep in the tablets which commemorate the pioneer history of the county.

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### JOSEPH DOCTOR

Carefully devised and executed plans, laudable ambition and indefatigable energy have brought Joseph Doctor to a prominent position in business circles in Cedar Rapids, where he has made his home since 1888. He is now conducting a general insurance, securities and steamship agency and in this connection has built up a business of large and profitable proportions.

Born in Bohemia on the 6th of January, 1848, he is a son of Isaac and Eve (Turnovsky) Doctor, who were also natives of Bohemia. Their son Joseph pursued his education in the schools of his native land, receiving thorough instruction in German, French, Italian and also in a business college, after which he held a good position in the city of his nativity, not far from Prague. He was a young man of twenty-four years when, in 1872, he came to the United States, landing at New York, where he resided for three years, occupying during that period a good position as German correspondent. He then went to Memphis, Tennessee, and was there in 1876 when the yellow fever epidemic broke out. Making his way northward, he remained a resident of Chicago for several years and was in the employ of the B. T. Babbitt Soap Company as salesman for eight years.



In 1888 Mr. Doctor arrived in Cedar Rapids, where he secured a position in the employ of J. R. Becker, with whom he remained until 1892, when he turned his attention to the insurance business, establishing a general insurance agency, also becoming a dealer in securities and the agent for various steamship lines. He now represents the Germania Insurance Company of New York, the Dublin Fire & Marine Company, the Prussian National, the Concordia of Milwaukee and others. He is also agent at this point for the American Bonding Company of Baltimore and the Continental Casualty Company of Chicago, and in his steamship agency department represents the Cunard, Hamburg-American and Holland-American lines. His knowledge of four different languages is of marked assistance to him, especially in his steamboat agency work, enabling him to be of great assistance to people speaking those tongues.

In 1898 Mr. Doctor was married to Miss Kate Ernest, who came to Cedar Rapids in her girlhood days, and they are prominently known in this city, Mr. Doctor being one of the foremost representatives of his native country here. He holds membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Improved Order of Red Men, and while he is interested in politics he has never been an office seeker, preferring to concentrate his time and energies upon his business affairs, in which he has met with signal success. His record is altogether creditable. Coming alone to the United States in early manhood with but limited means and no influence, his course has been marked by steady progress as the result of honorable business methods, a genial manner and the possession of those qualities which in every land and clime awaken confidence and regard. He has made wise use of his opportunities and has given to his patrons a service of value that has merited the financial return he has received.

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#### WILLIAM J. BERRY

William J. Berry, living in Bertram township, owns one hundred and fifty-two and a half acres located on sections 27 and 34. His land is devoted to the production of crops and each year he gathers good harvests, for he follows modern methods of farming. Mr. Berry was born on the home farm in Bertram township on the 28th of January, 1868, one of a family of eight children whose parents were Robert and Nancy Berry, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Indiana. Coming to Linn county in 1851, the father here entered land, on which he built a log cabin, which was the place of abode for many years. He at once began the development of his newly acquired land and continued its cultivation and improvement until the time of his demise, which occurred in 1906. The mother still survives and yet lives in Bertram township.

William J. Berry spent his youthful days amid the environment of the free, quiet life of the farm. He was early trained to habits of industry, economy and integrity and these have borne rich fruit in his later life. As he grew in years and strength he more largely assisted in the work of the fields, remaining at home until he was twenty-five years old, in the meantime having acquired his education in the common schools. He then took up his abode upon the farm which has since been his home, his tract embracing one hundred fifty-two and a half acres on sections 27 and 34, Bertram township. He has made improvements on his farm, including a good country residence, in the rear of which are substantial barns and outbuildings erected with a view to convenience, and everything about the place is kept in good condition.

In 1891 occurred the marriage of Mr. Berry and Miss Hannah J. Hutchinson, who was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, a daughter of C. G. and Hannah Hutchinson. The father was born in Pennsylvania, while the mother claimed Ohio





as the state of her nativity. They had nine children, of whom eight are still living. By her marriage Mrs. Berry has become the mother of one daughter, Mattie May, now a high-school student in Cedar Rapids.

Mr. Berry is a republican in his political views but has never been active as an office seeker. He is a member of the Odd Fellows Lodge, No. 534, at Bertram. Mrs. Berry holds membership in the Presbyterian church, while the daughter is a member of Westminster Presbyterian church at Cedar Rapids. As the years have come and gone Mr. Berry has not only diligently and successfully pursued his business but has watched with interest the progress of the county along agricultural lines, which has placed it among the foremost sections of this great state.

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### F. M. THOMPSON

Although one of the more recent additions to citizenship of Cedar Rapids, F. M. Thompson has established himself in an enviable position among the business men of the city as a representative of the lumber trade. Far-sighted and energetic, watchful of all opportunities pointing to success, he has labored along lines which have wrought for the good of the community as well as for individual prosperity.

He was born in the state of Ohio, March 1, 1844, and in the spring of 1850, when a lad of six years, accompanied his parents, Solomon and Elvira (Knight) Thompson, to Belleville, now Cambria, Columbia county, Wisconsin, the journey being made with a team and wagon. The father was a farmer by occupation. He died about a month after the arrival of the family in Wisconsin and the mother was left with care of her son, F. M. Thompson, and a brother two years younger. They had little of this world's goods and were left alone in a new country.

F. M. Thompson, with his mother's consent, was adopted by a farmer by the name of E. McCall, in the township of Scott, Columbia county. This was in the spring of 1852 when he was eight years of age. He there remained until he attained his majority in 1865, after which he started out in life on his own account, entering the employ of another farmer in Scott township by the name of Robert Beattie, who paid him twenty dollars per month for his services. Mr. Thompson remained in Mr. Beattie's employ until November, 1867, or about two and one-half years, when he hired out to the firm of Warren & Gamble of Monroe county, Wisconsin, who were in the pine lumber business. He remained with that firm until the fall of 1871, save that he spent two summers in Minnesota and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Faribault county. Utilizing every legitimate opportunity that would enable him to engage in business on his own account and carefully saving his earnings, in the fall of 1871, the firm of Robertson, Alexander & Thompson was formed, the partners all being employes of Warren & Gamble. They purchased some fine timber and began logging in a small way, selling their logs to their former employers, Warren & Gamble, during the first winter. Afterward they had their logs sawed into lumber by Warren & Gamble and sold their lumber to dealers in the retail trade. About the end of the second year, Mr. Robertson and Mr. Thompson purchased the interest of the other partner and continued the business under the firm style of Robertson & Thompson. At the time the latter entered the employ of Warren & Gamble, that firm was hauling its logs to what was then known as the Gleason & Squire sawmill, about seven miles north of Tomah, Wisconsin, on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, through the winter months, while in the summer seasons they hauled their lumber by team to Greenfield. In 1868 Warren & Gamble changed their base of operations to the village now called Warren on the



Omaha Railroad, seventeen miles north of Camp Douglas, Wisconsin. That was where Mr. Thompson first formed his partnership relations and began operations in the lumber business. In 1876 the firm of Robertson & Thompson sold their lumber interests to Warren & Gamble, later the George Warren Company, and bought some pine land and lumber in Marathon county, Wisconsin, where they conducted a logging business on the Little Eau Pleine, having the logs sawed at McMillan's mill, about five miles east of Marshfield, Wisconsin. They hauled their lumber to Mannville by team and shipped by way of the Wisconsin Central Railroad. They closed out their business at Mannville in the spring of 1880 and dissolved partnership. In the fall of 1881 Mr. Thompson entered into partnership with Fay Brothers & Company of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, for the purpose of conducting a retail lumber business in Van Horn, Benton county, Iowa. He had to cut and remove the corn in order to clear a place for his house. The business was conducted at that point until March, 1884, when they sold out to a man by the name of Wyman. Mr. Thompson then engaged in the lumber business with J. C. Fay, William A. Fay, and J. E. Gable, forming a company operating under the name of Fay Brothers & Company at Cedar Rapids. He purchased an interest in December, 1883, and in the spring of 1884 the business was removed to Westfield, Marquette county, Wisconsin, at which point Mr. Thompson attended largely to the buying and shipping of the lumber, the most of which was shipped from the north at that time for the conduct of the business at Cedar Rapids. In the spring of 1895 he took up his abode in the latter city, where he built his present residence.

It was on the 3d of December, 1878, that Mr. Thompson was married to Miss Eliza M. Lawton. He and his wife are members of the First Baptist church of Cedar Rapids and his political allegiance is given to the republican party. At one time he was a member of the township board of Mannville, Wisconsin, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. In addition to the conduct of a retail lumberyard at this point, he has acquired a substantial interest in the American Manufacturing Company of Cedar Rapids, which is conducting a general planing mill and mill work business on an extensive scale. Under his able management the enterprise will undoubtedly be developed to larger proportions. Mr. Thompson assumed control in January, 1910. Throughout his entire life connected with the lumber trade, his understanding thereof is most comprehensive and his word is largely accepted as authority in this part of the state on questions relative to the lumber industry.

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### HARRY BALL

Harry Ball, engaged in the electrical construction business at Cedar Rapids, is a partner of his brother, E. H. Ball, and the enterprise is carried on under the firm style of the E. H. Ball Company. He was born in Sheffield, England, on the 12th of January, 1875, his parents being Richard and Hannah Ball. In 1879 they emigrated to the United States, taking up their abode in Youngstown, Ohio, where our subject attended the grammar and high schools until seventeen years of age.

After putting aside his text-books Mr. Ball went to Pullman, Illinois, and for two years worked in the foundry department of the Pullman Car Company. He next spent a similar period in the service of the Fort Worth Electric Company at Fort Worth, Texas, and subsequently removed to Chicago, where he was connected with the electrical department of the Standard Electric Company for two years. During the following two years he was engaged as electrician with the Chicago Electric Construction Company and afterward went to Zanesville.



Ohio, where he acted as superintendent of the Zanesville Electric Railway, Light & Power Company for five years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Akron, Ohio, where he remained for two years as superintendent of the plant of the Reed Electrical Engineering Company. His next place of residence was Rockford, Illinois, where he was engaged in business with his brother, E. H. Ball, for four months. He then came to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, as a partner of his brother, who had organized the E. H. Ball Company, and they have here since conducted an extensive and successful business in general electrical construction work. He is a member of the Commercial Club and well deserves classification among the enterprising young business men and representative citizens of Cedar Rapids.

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### WILLIS G. HASKELL

While Willis G. Haskell has been a resident of Cedar Rapids for but a comparatively brief period, few men in the same length of time have done equally effective service for the material upbuilding and substantial progress of the city. Identified with many corporate interests, the promoter of many business affairs which are of inestimable value in the growth and upbuilding of Cedar Rapids, he is now devoting a portion of his time to public service as the postmaster of the city, to which position he was appointed in July, 1909. Reared in the dynamic atmosphere of the west, where men recognize the possibilities and put forth every effort to achieve desired results, he stands today as a typical representative of the spirit of enterprise and progress which has been the potent factor in the rapid development of this section of the country.

Mr. Haskell was born in Bradford, Iowa, on the 5th of June, 1857. His father, Edwin A. Haskell, was of English descent and removed from his old home in Massachusetts to Iowa in pioneer times. He followed merchandising in Bradford and at Cedar Falls as proprietor of a general store, the only interruption to his active business career coming through his service in the Civil war, when he was an officer of an Iowa regiment. He married Eliza Holmes, who was born in England, and both are now deceased.

Willis G. Haskell pursued his education in the public schools at Cedar Falls and at Independence, Iowa, and when seventeen years of age started out in life on his own account as a telegraph operator with the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railroad. He remained with that road for twenty years, during which time he was promoted through intermediate positions until he became traveling freight and passenger agent. At length he resigned, thinking to make more rapid progress if he should engage in business on his own account. Accordingly, in 1893, he came to Cedar Rapids and here established a wholesale and retail coal business, in which he has since been engaged, securing an extensive patronage in this line. The business has been incorporated under the name of the W. G. Haskell Company, of which he is president, but this by no means measures the scope of his activities. He extended his efforts to many lines, which have felt the stimulus of his energy and have profited by his sound judgment and business sagacity. He is a director in the Merchants National Bank, is vice president of the Cedar Rapids Canning Company, president of the C. J. Johnston Gas Appliance Company, a director in the Allison Hotel Company and has extensive realty interests in Cedar Rapids, having made judicious investment in property here. He derives from his holdings a substantial income and his various business interests are recognized as among the profitable concerns of the city, contributing not only to the success of the stockholders but also constituting factors in the general prosperity.





The fact that Mr. Haskell is the incumbent in the position of postmaster is indicative of his allegiance to the republican party, which he has supported since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He was called to his present office in July, 1910, and to the administration of his affairs is bringing the same principles and system that have ever characterized the conduct of his business interests. His fellow townsmen knew something of his ability and fidelity in office, for he had previously served for six years, from 1896 until 1902, as a member of the city council. He is now custodian of the postoffice and courthouse and is a member of the river front commission. For some years he has been chairman of the park commission and has been identified with various projects for the upbuilding and benefit of the city. He is also a member of the republican state central committee from the fifth district and is recognized as one of the leaders in republican ranks in Iowa.

Mr. Haskell was married in 1881 to Miss May E. Williams, a daughter of the late W. F. Williams, a banker of Vinton, Iowa. They have become the parents of four children: Maud, now the wife of John Newman, of Cedar Rapids; Guy F., the vice president and secretary of the W. G. Haskell Company; Francis, who is now attending the National Park Seminary of Maryland; and Willis G., in school in this city. The family residence is at No. 1726 D avenue and its hospitality is one of its attractive features.

Mr. Haskell is very fond of traveling and has visited Cuba as well as every state in the Union. For over twenty-six years he has been a member of the Masonic fraternity and is past eminent commander of Cypress Commandery, K. T.; has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite in Iowa Consistory, No. 2, and is a past potentate of El Kahir Temple of the Mystic Shrine. He likewise belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity. In manner he is genial and unostentatious, and the attainment of success has never affected his treatment of the less fortunate friends of his earlier years. Active in politics and prominent in fraternal circles, his ambition, however, seems to be in the line of business, and he regards his other interests as side issues with which, however, no life can be well rounded, no character well balanced. Yet they have never drawn his attention from the chief aim in his life and he has found that success is ambition's answer.

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#### WALTER E. HENDERSON

Walter E. Henderson, who now has the management of his father's farm of two hundred and thirty acres in Jackson township, has remained on this place from his birth to the present time, his natal day being October 3, 1882. A sketch of his father, Peter T. Henderson, is given on another page of this work. Our subject was reared under the parental roof and attended the common schools in the acquirement of an education. Being the only son in his father's family, he remained at home after reaching man's estate and assisted in the operation of the home farm. Since the spring of 1907 he has had the entire management of the property, his father having put aside active business cares.

On the 10th of February, 1909, Mr. Henderson was joined in wedlock to Miss Edith M. Jackson, who was born in New Hampshire but was living in Portland, Maine, at the time of her marriage. Following his son's marriage Peter T. Henderson erected a separate residence on the farm and took up his abode therein, turning the old homestead over to our subject, who has thus always resided in the house where he was born. In the conduct of his agricultural interests Mr. Henderson is methodical, systematic, progressive and up-to-date, and because of the excellent results which have attended his labors he is entitled to a place among the representative and substantial young farmers of the community.



Mr. and Mrs. Henderson are the parents of one child, Paul Wallace. Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Henderson has supported the men and measures of the republican party, believing firmly in its principles. He is an automobile enthusiast and drives a Flanders machine, deriving therefrom both pleasure and recreation. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church.

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### JOHN CORNELIS BROEKSMIT

In a history of Cedar Rapids it is imperative that mention be made of John C. Broeksmit if the record is complete, for through many years he took active and helpful part in the work of general improvement and progress, cooperating in many movements which have been of direct benefit to the city in promoting its material interests and upholding its legal, political and moral status. Moreover, he occupied a prominent position in business circles as auditor of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railroad. He was connected with railway interests through much of his life and for more than a third of a century occupied the position of auditor with the forementioned road and its predecessor.

A native of Holland, he was born in Zierikzee, on the 25th of January, 1825. His parents, Adrian F. and Gertrude (De Zwitzer) Broeksmit, were also natives of that country, where their ancestors had resided for many generations. The father through an active and successful business career dealt in grain and madder, the latter a commodity which has now fallen into disuse, owing to the introduction of chemical dye stuffs, but which fifty years ago was in great demand all over the world.

In his youthful days John C. Broeksmit mastered the branches of learning taught in the schools of the neighborhood, while his more advanced intellectual training was received in the French Institute and included a course in engineering, algebra, the higher mathematics and the French language. On putting aside his text-books he became an assistant in his father's counting room, where he remained for three years or until he had attained his majority. Attracted by the opportunities of the new world, he came to the United States in 1847, wishing to enjoy the advantages which report had told him were to be secured on this side the Atlantic. So slow was ocean travel in those days that several weeks elapsed ere he reached the harbor of New York. He at once sought employment in the metropolis, having brought with him several letters of recommendation, which had been given him in recognition of his ability, enterprise and readiness of resource in the old world. He was entirely unfamiliar with the English language, however, and, therefore, found it difficult to secure a position. From New York he went to Boston and was more fortunate in his efforts to obtain employment in the latter city. He engaged with Thomas H. Dixon & Son, importers and shipowners, located at No. 41 India wharf. The senior member of the firm was consul general of the Netherlands for the state of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Maine and manifested a personal interest in Mr. Broeksmit, having in the meantime received a letter from the mayor of Zierikzee urging him to assist the young man, whom he stated was worthy of any trust. For two years Mr. Broeksmit remained with the firm of Dixon & Son, during which time he closely applied himself to the duties assigned him and not only mastered mercantile methods in America but also learned to speak, read and write the English language. His business experience broadened when he became an employe of George W. Warren & Company, conducting a large wholesale and retail business in dry goods. He served as bookkeeper in the Nahant Hotel near Boston



from 1851 until 1855, at the end of which time, with a desire to see the country, he started for the south.

For about six years Mr. Broeksmit filled the position of chief clerk with Samuel Van Loon, master mechanic of the New Orleans, Jackson & Great Northern Railroad, in Louisiana, but at the outbreak of the Civil war left New Orleans as a passenger on board a Holland vessel, which had anchored in the harbor of the Crescent City. It was the only Holland ship visiting that port in twenty-three years and after thirty-two days spent upon the water Mr. Broeksmit found himself once more upon the shores of his native country. While in Holland he gave his attention to railroad work, which called him to various places, some time being spent in the cities of Breda and Zutphen. Later he secured a clerkship for the railroad commission having in charge the construction and operation of the railroads in the Dutch East Indies, for which he sailed and saw service on the island of Java at Batavia and Samarang. It was at that time that the project of the first railroad on the island was being put into execution, Baron Sloet Van de Beele, governor general of the Netherland Indies, turning the first spade full of earth at the ceremonies which inaugurated the project.

A part of the year 1867 Mr. Broeksmit again spent in Holland, but the broader and more rapidly developing opportunities of the new world proved to him an irresistible attraction and in 1868 he again crossed the Atlantic. With presence to discern what the future had in store for this great and growing western country, he made his way to the Mississippi valley, going first to Chicago, where through the influence of George P. Lee, treasurer of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company, he obtained the appointment of station agent at Cleveland, Illinois, where the company owned large coal mines. Subsequently he was made agent at Coal Valley, Illinois, and afterward served under Hon. Hiram Price at Maquoketa, Iowa, as agent for the Davenport & St. Paul Railroad. Coming thence to Cedar Rapids in 1871, he was first connected with the accounting department of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Minnesota Railway Company and after two years was made auditor of the road, which in 1876 was reorganized under the name of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railroad. In that capacity he continued to represent the road until his retirement from active business in 1902. His efforts in that connection constituted a valuable force in promoting the interests of the road. The responsibilities of his position continually increased with the growth of the business, yet in no particular did he fall short of capable service, enjoying at all times the entire confidence of the railroad officials and the genuine respect of the employes who served under him by his uniform courtesy and fairness.

While Mr. Broeksmit made his work of worth to the railroad company, he was at the same time a coöperant factor in many measures and projects for the improvement of the city. He became one of the organizers and was the treasurer of the Cedar Rapids Water Company, was one of the organizers and the first directors of the Merchants National Bank and in other fields of business and public enterprise the stimulus of his activity was felt as a directing force. Educational and moral progress found in him a champion and he served as trustee and treasurer of Coe College, while in the Young Men's Christian Association he acted as first president of the board of trustees. He held membership in the Presbyterian church and his life at all times was actuated by principles of honor and integrity that won for him the untarnished name that is rather to be chosen than great riches. His political allegiance was given to the republican party, which found in him an earnest supporter because of his firm belief in its platform as the conservator of good government.

Mr. Broeksmit was married in 1873 to Miss Laura Shaw, a native of Maquoketa, Iowa, a daughter of John Shaw and a representative of one of the old families of New England, whose history contains a most creditable chapter in





connection with the Revolutionary war. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Broeksmit were born four children, Gertrude, Eugene, Helen and John, and by a former marriage Mr. Broeksmit had one son, W. F. Broeksmit, who is now freight auditor of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railroad Company. For many years Mr. Broeksmit enjoyed a happy home life until called to his final rest on the 4th of March, 1907. He had long been recognized as one of Cedar Rapids' most prominent and valued citizens, and his death was felt as a distinct loss by the city, while in social circles he was mourned as a sincere and loyal friend.

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### JOHN S. BROEKSMIT

John S. Broeksmit, cashier of the Merchants National Bank, is one of Cedar Rapids' native sons, his birth having here occurred February 12, 1881. While spending his youthful days in the home of his parents, John C. and Laura (Shaw) Broeksmit, he attended the public schools and Coe College, being graduated from the latter with the class of 1890. Further educational privileges were then afforded him, and, matriculating in Yale, he completed the classical course in 1904, at which time the Bachelor of Arts degree was conferred upon him. Returning to Cedar Rapids, he entered the Merchants National Bank in February, 1905, and has worked his way upward through successive promotions. In December, 1906, he was elected cashier of the Citizens National Bank and was continued in that position, when on the 18th of May, 1908, the two banks were consolidated under the name of the Merchants National. He is diligently applying himself to the mastery of financial problems and his developing business ability has gained him a creditable position in banking circles. He is popular socially in his home city and holds membership in the Commercial and University Clubs.

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### NIMROD JASPER CURTIS

Nimrod Jasper Curtis, who is now living retired at Lisbon, was formerly actively identified with the agricultural interests of this part of the state and thus won the competence that enables him to spend his declining years in well earned ease. His birth occurred in Washington county, Ohio, on the 22d of February, 1838, his parents being Elisha and Frances (Scott) Curtis. The father, who was born in Virginia in 1804, was a little lad of six years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Ohio. The mother, whose birth occurred in Pennsylvania in 1806, was ten years old when brought by her parents to the Buckeye state. It was in that state that Elisha Curtis met and married Miss Frances Scott and there they made their home until the year 1850, when they came to Linn county, Iowa, here continuing to reside throughout the remainder of their lives. Mr. Curtis devoted his attention to general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career and owned a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres in Linn township, this county. His demise occurred on the 22d of March, 1881, and his wife was called to her final rest on the 4th of July, 1887. Unto this worthy couple were born ten children, as follows: James, who is deceased; Mrs. Rachel Ellison, living in Martelle, Jones county, Iowa; Isaiah P., who has likewise passed away; Mrs. Anna Eliza Burk, who is deceased; Nimrod Jasper, of this review; Mrs. Martha J. Burk, who has passed away; Joseph, living in Centralia, Washington; Charles, who is a resident of Taylor county, Iowa; William, deceased; and Ida Royal, who makes her home in Washington.



Nimrod J. Curtis was a lad of twelve years when in October, 1850, he came to Iowa with his parents, who in the spring of 1853 took up their abode on a farm which the father had purchased in Linn township, this county. The family home was maintained thereon until 1868 and during that period our subject spent four years in mining at Idaho City, Idaho, returning home in 1867 and living with his parents until the time of his marriage. Following that important event in his life he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on the edge of Jones county, in Greenfield township, and for a number of years devoted his time and energies to its further cultivation and improvement with excellent results. Nineteen years ago he put aside the active work of the fields and came to Lisbon, where he has since lived retired in a handsome residence which he erected at the corner of School and Walnut streets. From his father-in-law he purchased a farm of two hundred and ninety acres near his property in Jones county and this tract of land he still owns. The quarter section in Greenfield township remained in his possession until about a year ago, when he disposed of the same.

In September, 1873, Mr. Curtis was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Keller, who was born in Augusta county, Virginia, on the 15th of June, 1848, her parents being Harmon D. and Susanna (Engleman) Keller, both natives of Virginia. In 1852 they removed to Jones county, Iowa, where the father was successfully engaged in farming and stock-raising until the time of his death. Mrs. Keller then made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Curtis, until she, too, passed away. Our subject and his wife have a daughter, Susanna F., who was graduated from Cornell College at Mount Vernon in June, 1909, and in that year gave her hand in marriage to A. F. Kohl, of Clinton, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Curtis have traveled extensively over the United States and intend soon to take up their abode in Washington. Both are widely and favorably known throughout the community, enjoying the regard and esteem of a large circle of friends. Mr. Curtis has now passed the seventy-second milestone on life's journey and can look back over an active, useful and honorable career.

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### JOHN W. PICHNER

John W. Pichner, the secretary and treasurer of the Kings Crown Plaster Company, is one of the substantial young business men of Cedar Rapids. He was born in this city on the 21st of January, 1872, a son of John and Teresa (Hrdlicka) Pichner, who were natives of Bohemia but were brought to the United States by their respective parents in their childhood days. The paternal grandparents first located in Illinois, where they made their home for four years and then removed westward to Iowa, residing for a short time in the colonies of Iowa county. They next went to Owatonna, Minnesota, where John Pichner grew to manhood. After attaining his majority he came to Cedar Rapids, walking from Owatonna to this city in five days. He first secured employment in an implement store and later clerked in a dry goods establishment. In 1880 he removed westward to Kansas but hard times prevailed in that state because of the drought and after seven months he returned to Iowa, locating in Iowa City, where for seven years he worked in a dry goods store. On the expiration of that period he purchased a farm in Johnson county, twelve miles northwest of Iowa City, residing thereon for six years. Coming to Cedar Rapids, he then embarked in the dry goods business on his own account and was thus identified with mercantile interests for a number of years. Since disposing of his store, however, he has been employed in the mail service.



John W. Pichner was reared under the parental roof and obtained his preliminary education in the common schools. Subsequently he pursued a commercial course in the Iowa State College of Iowa City, from which institution he was graduated in 1893, acting as janitor in order to pay his way through college. Going to Davenport, he was there employed in a wholesale house for almost two years, on the expiration of which period he resigned in order to accept a position in the hardware store of C. H. Swab & Company of Cedar Rapids. After serving in the capacity of bookkeeper for one year he was admitted to the firm as a partner, but three years later his health had become so impaired that he was obliged to dispose of his interest in the business. He then purchased and located upon a farm of two hundred and forty acres in Johnson county and devoted his time and energies to its operation for five years, finding the outdoor life beneficial to his health. On selling his farm he returned to Cedar Rapids and became identified with the Kings Crown Plaster Company, being made secretary and treasurer of the concern. In addition to his interests in this connection he owns a valuable tract of land comprising two hundred acres in Oxford township, Johnson county, and is likewise a stockholder in the Consolidated Casualty Company. His home is at No. 1615 Fifth avenue and he is widely recognized as one of the prosperous and enterprising young business men of Cedar Rapids.

On the 23d of November, 1897, Mr. Pichner was united in marriage to Miss Eleanor F. Riddle, of Johnson county, Iowa, by whom he has one child, Leona A. His political allegiance is given to the democracy. He is a member of the Cedar Rapids Commercial Club and also belongs to Jan Hus Lodge, No. 51, I. O. O. F., Jednota Tyrs Cedar Rapids Sokol and the Ceske Ochnici, a Bohemian dramatic association.

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### F. J. RICHARDS

F. J. Richards, an enterprising and progressive agriculturist and stockman of Linn county, is the owner of an excellent farm of two hundred and two acres in Buffalo township. His birth occurred in Wisconsin in 1858, his parents being James and Elizabeth (Hendy) Richards, both of whom were natives of England. The year 1860 witnessed their arrival in Linn county and the father purchased and located upon a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Boulder township. After having devoted his attention to its cultivation and improvement for a period of twenty years he sold the property and removed to Anamosa, Jones county, where he spent the remainder of his life, passing away about 1900. His widow subsequently came to Viola, where her demise occurred in 1908. Unto this worthy couple were born eight children, as follows: Mary Ann, who is deceased; William H.; George C., who passed away in 1907; Joseph J.; Charlotte E.; Frederick T.; F. J.; and Louis A., who died in 1890.

F. J. Richards spent the first eighteen years of his life under the parental roof and then began earning his own livelihood, working as a farm hand for five years. At the end of that time he had accumulated sufficient capital to enable him to buy land of his own and thus he came into possession of a tract of one hundred and seventeen acres. His land holdings now embrace two hundred and two acres in Buffalo township—all under a high state of cultivation and improvement. In addition to raising the cereals best adapted to soil and climate he also handles high grade stock and both branches of his business return to him a gratifying annual income. His place is lacking in none of the conveniences and accessories of a model farm of the twentieth century and his labors as an agriculturist have been attended with excellent results.





On the 22d of March, 1882, Mr. Richards was united in marriage to Miss Nancy E. Minehart, a daughter of George and Lena (Bruner) Minehart, both of whom were natives of Ohio. They came to Iowa at an early day and spent the remainder of their lives on a farm in Linn county. Their children were five in number, namely: Malinda, the wife of O. P. Hart, of Springville; Hannah, the wife of F. T. Richards, of this county; Mrs. F. J. Richards; George E., who is a resident of Buffalo township; and I. P., living in Canada. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Richards have been born five children, as follows: one who died in infancy; George E., who is married and makes his home in Colorado; Bessie C., the wife of F. D. Stoddard, of Buffalo township; Frances, the wife of L. Hargraves, of Shenandoah, Iowa; and Jay D., at home.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Richards has supported the men and measures of the republican party but the honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him. Almost his entire life has been passed in this county and his fellow townsmen know that his career has been characterized by fidelity to duty and by honor in all his relations with his fellowmen.

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### E. C. BARBER

E. C. Barber, one of the most prominent of Cedar Rapids' corporation lawyers, has in this connection contributed in a large measure to the success of various enterprises and business concerns which constitute the basis of the city's industrial, commercial and financial activity. In the complexity of business affairs at the present time it has come to be that the corporation lawyer is a silent partner in almost every business house of prominence.

Mr. Barber was born in Wardsboro, Vermont, January 29, 1855, and is a representative of the old New England families. His father, Junia D. Barber, also a native of the Green Mountain state, was recognized as a man of stern qualities and a highly respected citizen. He married Sarah Smith, an estimable lady, and also a native of Wardsboro, Vermont, and both are now deceased, the former having passed away in 1894, and the latter in 1882. Their lives were principally spent on the farm.

E. C. Barber's early life and until about fourteen years of age was spent upon the farm and in attending the public schools in his native town. Afterward the family took up their abode in Townsend, Vermont, and he continued to work on the farm and attended about half a dozen terms in the academy. When about eighteen years of age, he went to Springfield, Massachusetts, where he was employed in a store for a short time. He then returned to the Green Mountain state and was employed in a dry-goods store at Brattleboro until twenty-two years of age, when thinking to make the practice of law his life work, he there entered upon a year's reading in the law office and under the direction of Hon. E. W. Stoddard, states attorney. He afterward continued his law study with his brother, F. J. Barber, an attorney at Hinsdale, New Hampshire (now at Oshkosh, Wisconsin) and in 1879, he came to Tama, Iowa, and at Toledo, Iowa, he was admitted to practice in the district and circuit courts, and in May of the same year he removed to Cedar Rapids, where he opened an office and began practice in a very modest way, having no money and few books. He was admitted to the supreme court of the state at Dubuque, December 22, 1879, and has also been admitted to practice before the federal courts of Iowa and the supreme court of Illinois. Gradually he progressed as he gave proof of his ability to handle involved and important litigated interests. In the preparation of cases, he was ever thorough and painstaking, his arguments were sound, his deductions logical, and his sequences correct. He continued in the general practice of law until about fifteen



years ago, since which time he has devoted his attention almost exclusively to corporation practice. He is now connected with several important corporations in a legal capacity. In promoting and organizing business, manufacturing and financial concerns, Mr. Barber has displayed notable ability and presence, formulating plans that are in strict harmony with the law, and meeting with the success which comes from careful, systematized and practical effort.

Mr. Barber has always been an influential man in politics but has never sought public office. He is, nevertheless, one of the most prominent and representative republicans of this part of the state, and his counsel and advice always carry weight where important political questions are being discussed.

Through force of circumstances, Mr. Barber became connected with a publishing business and has for years edited and published *The Optimus*, one of the brightest, most influential and brilliantly edited papers in the state. The business has been developed until a small subscription list has been increased to upward of fifteen hundred subscribers. The influence of the paper is not measured by the city, county or state, being in fact felt in various parts of the nation. Mr. Barber is a facile and powerful writer, and the leading editorials of the paper are from his pen. He has a faculty of saying clearly and cogently what he desires to express, and draws at will upon the stores of his broad wisdom for example, illustration or argument.

Mr. Barber was married in 1882 to Lucia Whitcomb Gale, born in Cornwall, Addison county, Vermont. Her parents were Daniel A. Gale, born in Cornwall, Vermont, and Rosetta C. Austin, born in Townsend, Vermont.

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## WARREN H. DURIN

Warren H. Durin belonged to that class of men who while promoting individual success also advanced the general welfare. The line of business in which he engaged was one that proved of much value and worth in the community, for he was secretary and manager of the Cedar Rapids & Marion Telephone Company. A native of Illinois, he was born near Rochelle, Lee county, on the 7th of August, 1857, and was a son of Gilbert E. Durin. His youthful days were spent in his father's home and the educational system of Illinois provided him with his opportunities for preparing for life's practical and responsible duties.

After attaining his majority Mr. Durin took up the profession of teaching, which he followed for some time, and then came to Iowa, settling in Cedar Rapids, where he entered the employ of A. T. Averill, who was engaged in the implement business. A few years were thus passed and Mr. Durin then left Cedar Rapids and went to Arlington, where for sixteen years he conducted a grain and lumber business. He was very successful while there, his carefully directed business affairs bringing to him a very gratifying annual income. In 1895 he returned to Cedar Rapids, becoming connected with the Averill Wagon Company, with which he was associated until the business was discontinued. At that time he turned his attention to the telephone business and was active in the organization of the Cedar Rapids & Marion Telephone Company, of which he was secretary and manager from its inception until his death. He was also one of its heavy stockholders and his was the directing voice which controlled its affairs and shaped its policy. He instituted an enterprise characterized by good service and the line became an important factor in the development of business relations between the two cities. Mr. Durin, moreover, was a large landholder in the south and also became a stockholder and one of the officers of the Economy Furnace Company of Cedar Rapids.

Mr. Durin was united in marriage to Miss Edith M. Little and they had one son, Albert. The death of the husband and father occurred March 17, 1905. He



held membership with the Knights of Pythias, was a liberal contributor to various charitable movements and was recognized as a man of honor, highly respected in every relation of life. He never sacrificed his principles to the attainment of prominence in any line but held closely to high ideals of manhood and of citizenship and thus left to his family that priceless heritage of an honored name which is rather to be chosen than great riches.

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#### E. T. LAWLER, M. D.

Dr. E. T. Lawler, who since 1900 has been an active member of the medical fraternity of Cedar Rapids, where he is now making a specialty of surgery, in which field he has displayed notable skill and ability, was born in this city, November 12, 1878, a son of James E. and Mary (Kelly) Lawler. His father is one of Cedar Rapids' most respected business men, long connected with commercial interests here.

In the public schools Dr. Lawler pursued his more specifically literary education, completing the course by graduation from the high school. He afterward spent four years in Rush Medical College and was graduated with the class of 1900. His careful preparation for the profession well qualified him to enter upon active practice upon his return to Cedar Rapids and, opening an office, he has since devoted his time and energies to the labors that have devolved upon him, especially in the field of surgery. In 1903 he went to Europe, where he pursued post-graduate work in surgery and his reading and research have largely been along the same line. He has intimate knowledge of anatomy and the component parts of the human body and with steady nerves, quick intelligence, keen discernment and comprehensive familiarity with the principles of medical and surgical science, he has accomplished splendid work and is building up a most enviable reputation in this field of practice.

On the 17th of January, 1905, Dr. Lawler was married to Miss Laura Greene, a native of West Union, Iowa. Fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Columbus and he has always taken an active part in politics. He keeps thoroughly informed on the questions and issues of the day and does all in his power to secure the adoption of the principles which he believes will best conserve the public welfare. For five years he filled the office of city physician. He belongs to the County, State and National Medical Societies and puts forth every possible effort to promote his efficiency and render his service of greater value in the department of practice which he has elected to make his specialty.

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#### W. H. QUAAS

W. H. Quaas, who has met with success in his operations as a farmer and stock-raiser, is the owner of three hundred and two acres of rich and productive land on sections 13, 19 and 24, Monroe township. His birth occurred in Linn county, Iowa, in 1858, his parents being Godfrey and Mary Quaas, who are mentioned at greater length on another page of this volume. His educational advantages were such as the common schools of the period and locality afforded and he remained under the parental roof until the time of his marriage at the age of twenty-three years. He then devoted his attention to the operation of rented land for two years, on the expiration of which period he purchased one hundred acres of his present farm and began improving the property. As his financial resources increased, owing to his untiring industry and capable management, he added to his





acreage by additional purchase until his holdings now embrace three hundred and two acres of valuable land on sections 13, 19 and 24, Monroe township. In connection with the tilling of the soil he makes a specialty of raising and feeding hogs and cattle, which branch of his business adds materially to his income.

In early manhood Mr. Quaas was joined in wedlock to Miss Maria C. Vannote, who was born in Linn county, Iowa, in 1864, her parents being Brazilla and Maria (Wolfe) Vannote, both of whom were natives of Indiana. The year 1849 witnessed their arrival in Linn county and here they continued to reside throughout the remainder of their lives, the father passing away in 1908 and the mother in 1907. Both had attained the ripe old age of eighty-five years. They were the parents of nine children, seven of whom still survive. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Quaas were born six children, namely: Walter W., who is deceased; Selma E., the wife of G. R. Hagerman, of Linn county; Stella V., at home; Opal and Orville, twins, who are likewise under the parental roof; and Hattie M., also with her parents.

Mr. Quaas is a republican in his political views and has capably served his fellow townsmen in the capacity of trustee and also as a school director. Fraternally he is identified with the Modern Brotherhood Association, belonging to lodge No. 51. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Evangelical church, with which his wife is also affiliated. They have always resided within the borders of this county and the circle of their friends is almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintances.

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#### THOMAS P. McDONALD

Thomas P. McDonald, proprietor of the extensive teaming business now conducted under the name of the American Transfer Company at Cedar Rapids, was born in Fairfax, this county, March 20, 1878. His father, Thomas McDonald, was a native of Ireland, but when five years of age was brought to the United States and in the '50s became a resident of Linn county. At the outbreak of the Civil war he espoused the cause of the Union and went to the front, serving throughout the period of hostilities. He sustained slight wounds but most of the time was on active duty. When the war was over he returned to Linn county and resumed farming, to which he had previously given his attention. For many years he engaged in tilling the soil, bringing his fields under a high state of cultivation, but at length retired and is now living in Cedar Rapids in the enjoyment of well earned rest and quiet. He married Bridget Flaherty, who was also a native of the Emerald isle and was but a young child when brought to the United States. In their family were the following children who are yet living: James; John; William; Walter; Thomas P.; Mary, who is the widow of Thomas F. Hines and resides in Cedar Rapids; and Julia, the wife of John Weldon, of Waterloo, Iowa.

Thomas P. McDonald was educated in the Sisters school of Cedar Rapids and since completing his education has been continuously connected with the transfer business, first entering the employ of the Stein Transfer Company, with which he was associated for sixteen years, gradually working his way upward and gaining in the various departments of the business a thorough understanding thereof. On the 1st of January, 1909, he bought out the American Transfer Company of Cedar Rapids and, though less than two years have since elapsed, he has every reason to be proud and gratified concerning his success, for he is accorded a liberal patronage that promises well for the future.

Mr. McDonald was married in Cedar Rapids in 1900 to Miss Lutie M. Johnson, and they have three children, Donald, George and Regis, all of whom are attending the Sisters school here. The family attend the Catholic church, of which Mr. McDonald and his wife are communicants. He belongs also to the Knights



of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters. His political support is usually given to the democratic party, but he does not believe in a blind following of any political organization. He recognizes that there is much of good and bad in each party, bringing his judgment to bear in the exercise of his right of franchise, desiring that the most capable men shall fill the public offices.

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### H. T. BROWN

H. T. Brown needs no introduction to the readers of this volume, for he is a representative of one of the honored pioneer families of Cedar Rapids. He was born at the old homestead in this city, September 18, 1857, and has come to be numbered among the capitalists here, giving his attention to his invested interests, his estate being a large one. His education was acquired in the public schools and in Mount Vernon, where he devoted a year to study. At nineteen years of age he went to Colorado, where he became interested in mining, remaining there from 1877 until 1879. On the expiration of that period he returned to Cedar Rapids, where he has since resided, looking after his estate.

Mr. Brown was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Cottrell. Theirs is a beautiful home, recently completed, at No. 1212 North Eleventh street. Mr. Brown takes a very active part in the affairs of Cedar Rapids, being deeply interested in the city in which he has always maintained his home save for a brief period of two years. With many projects which have been instituted for the benefit of this city he has been closely identified, and his support can always be counted upon to further progressive public measures. His circle of friends is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintance and his social relations are with those that have ever represented the progress and culture of the city.

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### BENJAMIN F. HEINS

Among the worthy German citizens of Cedar Rapids Benjamin F. Heins was numbered and is yet kindly remembered by many friends who knew him while he was yet an active factor in the world's work. A native of Germany, he was born September 12, 1849, and was a son of B. K. Heins. He was only about six weeks old when his parents bade adieu to friends and native country and sailed for America. After reaching the shores of the new world they made their way westward to Linn county, Iowa, so that Benjamin F. Heins spent his entire life in this county. After completing his English education, whereby he gained a good knowledge of all the common branches of learning, he took up the study of law and in due time was admitted to the bar. Thereafter his attention was given to practice as an attorney and counselor and for a time he was associated with a Mr. Craft, while later he joined his brother Lewis, who was also an attorney, and the firm of Heins Brothers attained a prominent place at the Cedar Rapids bar. Benjamin F. Heins was widely known for the precision and care with which he prepared his cases, and his cause was always presented in a clear, forcible and logical manner that never failed to impress the court or jury and seldom failed to win the verdict which he desired.

In 1888 Mr. Heins was united in marriage to Mrs. Mary (Emerson) Chase, who was born in Ohio, July 26, 1848, and is a daughter of D. W. and Hulda (Flint) Emerson. Her parents were natives of New Hampshire and Vermont respectively and on leaving New England became residents of Wayne county, Iowa, but subsequently chose Cedar Rapids as the place of their residence and remained here



until called to their final rest, the father passing away in 1888, while the mother died in 1893. In their family were thirteen children, including their daughter Mary, who in 1869 gave her hand in marriage to Lewis Chase. She lived in Ohio for a time and in 1879 removed to Cedar Rapids. Here Mr. Chase remained until his death, which occurred in 1884. There was one daughter by that marriage, Grace Emerson Chase, now the wife of S. R. Palmer, of Cedar Rapids. Following the death of her first husband Mrs. Chase became the wife of B. F. Heins in 1888 and they traveled life's journey happily together for sixteen years, when, in May, 1904, Mr. Heins was called to his final rest. Mrs. Heins still makes her home in this city and is the owner of two fine residences on North Seventh street, from which she derives a substantial income. She has many friends in this city and enjoys in large measure the esteem of those with whom social relations have brought her in contact.

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### FRANK KROUSE

Frank Krouse, whose entire life has been passed within the boundaries of Linn county, Iowa, has been closely identified with agricultural pursuits and is now numbered among the successful farmers and representative citizens of this section of the state. His birth occurred in Monroe township on the 9th of January, 1870, his father being Mathias Krouse, extended mention of whom appears on another page of this volume. As a pupil in the common schools Frank Krouse acquired a good knowledge of the various branches therein taught, nor was he lacking in practical training, for at an early age he became familiar with the various tasks that fall to the lot of the country lad. After putting aside his text-books he remained with his parents on the home farm until twenty-six years of age, and in the meantime, under the direction of his father, learned many lessons concerning the value of industry, energy, perseverance and integrity. Thus, when later he entered the business world on his own account, wisely choosing as his life work the occupation to which he had been reared, he was well equipped to meet the practical and responsible duties of life.

In the year 1896 Mr. Krouse laid the foundation for a happy home life by his marriage to Miss Berrie Ellis, who was also born in Monroe township, Linn county, on the 14th of March, 1879. She was one of a family of thirteen children born unto Henry and Elizabeth (Shoot) Ellis, natives of Germany, who came to America at an early date, locating in Linn county, where they still make their home, being numbered among the honored and respected residents of their section of the county.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Krouse took up their abode upon a rented farm, which he continued to operate for three years, and during that time, by hard labor and strict economy, succeeded in accumulating sufficient capital with which to purchase a farm. Accordingly, at the expiration of that period, he became the owner of one hundred and sixty-five acres of land on section 13, Monroe township, upon which he now resides. He has since directed his efforts to the further development and improvement of his property, and under his careful supervision it has been brought under a high state of cultivation, being one of the well improved and valuable farms of Monroe township. Together with the tilling of the soil he also engages extensively in stock-raising, making a specialty of cows and horses, and both branches of his business—the raising of grain and the raising of stock—are proving successful, bringing to him a gratifying annual income.

As the years have come and gone the home of Mr. and Mrs. Krouse has been blessed with four children, as follows: Arthur F., who was born July 11, 1898;





Elsie M., born July 14, 1901; Anna P., July 2, 1904; and Hubert C., October 9, 1907.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Krouse has given stalwart allegiance to the republican party, and although he has never sought nor desired public office as a reward for party fealty, he has ever been public-spirited in his citizenship, lending his aid and influence at all times to those measures which have for their object the upbuilding and improvement of the community. A life-long resident of Linn county, he has been closely associated with its interests for a number of years and during that time has become widely acquainted throughout the community, his many excellent traits of character winning him a circle of friends which is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintance.

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#### PHILIP S. MOSER, M. D.

Dr. Philip S. Moser, who through the period of his professional career was engaged in practice in Iowa, was born in Charleston, South Carolina, and acquired his education in the common schools. He then supplemented his literary course by studying medicine with a view to engage in practice. At length he was graduated as a physician and soon afterward came to Iowa, choosing Muscatine as his location. He practiced there for several years and subsequently removed to Boone county, where his remaining days were devoted to ministering to the sick and suffering. He always kept in touch with the advanced thought of the profession, read widely and carried his researches far into the realms of scientific knowledge. He was interested in everything that tended to bring to man the key to the complex mystery which we call life, and he was conscientious as well as faithful and able in his practice.

While Dr. Moser never resided in Cedar Rapids, his family have for some years made their home here. In 1882 he wedded Miss Louie V. Gosting, who was born in Delaware county, Iowa, a daughter of Edward and Mary Ann Gosting, both of whom were natives of England. Crossing the Atlantic, they became residents of Iowa at an early day in the history of this state and here continued to reside until called to their final rest. Unto Dr. and Mrs. Moser were born two daughters. Lillian B., who resides with her mother at home, is a graduate of the Cedar Rapids high school and also a graduate of music and is now successfully conducting a music store in this city. Laura L. is the wife of Loren Goumer, now of Waterloo, Iowa. Mrs. Moser and her daughter reside in a beautiful residence which she owns at No. 632 Second avenue and have made many friends during the period of their residence here.

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#### JOHN H. BENION

A well improved farm of one hundred and twenty acres pays tribute to the labors of John H. Benion, this property being situated in Spring Grove township. He was born November 3, 1854, a son of Enoch and Ann (Humphrey) Benion, both of whom were natives of Wales. On emigrating to America in 1850, they located in the state of New York, remaining in the east until 1862, when they removed to Rockford, Illinois, the father there renting land, which he operated until 1870. A year later he came to Linn county, Iowa, and purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, which he cultivated until 1899. He is now making his home with his daughter, Mrs. Henry Parks, near Center Point, this county.



John H. Benion spent the period of his boyhood and youth in much the usual manner of farm lads, assisting in the work of the home place during the spring and summer months, while in the winter season he pursued his studies in the district schools. He remained on the home farm until he reached the age of twenty-five years, when he began working for others at farm labor. Six years later he established a home of his own by his marriage, after which he purchased eighty acres of land in Spring Grove township, to which he later added forty acres, his possessions now embracing one hundred and twenty acres. This is a well improved tract, and the fields annually yield rich harvests.

In October, 1889, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Benion and Miss Lois G. Hull, a daughter of Milton C. and Mary (Staleop) Hull, the former a native of Michigan, while the latter claims the state of Indiana as the place of her nativity. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Benion has been blessed with eight children: Milton C., who at the age of twenty years is assisting his father on the farm; Carl W., aged nineteen; Ernest E., a youth of seventeen years; Helen V., Bernice B., Mildred L., aged respectively fourteen, twelve and eight years; and Gladys E. and Norma F., aged three and two years.

In politics Mr. Benion is a republican, and he and his wife are identified with the Evangelical church. Enterprise and progress have ever characterized the labors of Mr. Benion and he is numbered among the substantial citizens of the community in which he resides.

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### CHARLES A. CALDER

Placing his dependence upon the substantial qualities of energy, perseverance and ready adaptability in business affairs, Charles A. Calder has made continuous and gratifying progress since starting out in life for himself and is now conducting a profitable business as proprietor of the Calder Van & Storage Company. He was born January 10, 1866, in Cedar Rapids, upon the site of the Commercial National Bank, which the estate still owns. His parents were Charles E. and Alcinda (Roberts) Calder, the former a native of Cooperstown, New York, and the latter of Hagerstown. The father came to Cedar Rapids with his parents, who drove across the country with team and wagon from Cooperstown, New York. The grandfather, Joseph Calder, was a butcher by trade and killed the first beef ever slaughtered in this city for commercial purposes. So small was the town and so few patrons could be secured that it took him six weeks to make arrangements for the disposal of the beef ere he dared to kill it. He continued in the butchering business throughout his active life and on retiring was succeeded by his sons Charles E. and Joseph Calder. The former continued in active identification with the butchering business in Cedar Rapids for twenty-three years, when his health failed and he retired. He died December 31, 1899, and is still survived by his widow, who has now reached the age of seventy-seven years.

Charles A. Calder largely devoted his youthful days to the attainment of an education in the public school and in Cornell College but attended the latter for only one term. From an early age he displayed the spirit of energy, industry and enterprise which has characterized his entire life. His father wanted no more butchers in the family, so that during the periods of vacation the boy worked on his father's farm but after reaching manhood he turned to the occupation which had largely been the pursuit of the family, conducting a butcher shop at Foster, Iowa. Following his father's death he returned to Linn county and took up his abode upon the old home farm three miles north of Cedar Rapids, which he continued to cultivate for three years. He and his sister Mary were made exe-



cutors of the estate and in order to manage the business he removed to Cedar Rapids. Four or five years later his sister Mary died, since which time Mr. Calder has had complete charge of the estate. At the time of his death the father owned the Commercial National Bank property besides several residence properties and a farm north of Cedar Rapids.

In 1901 Charles A. Calder turned his attention to the van and storage business, in which he has since engaged, and in 1907 he built his present modern brick warehouse, the dimensions of which are sixty by one hundred and forty feet and four stories in height. He has been accorded a liberal patronage in this connection and is one of the successful business men of Cedar Rapids. Having been taught the value of labor when a boy, he regards it as the best schooling he ever had and has always kept busy. There have been no moments of idleness in his life and indolence forms no part of his nature. He early realized that diligence and perseverance are the basis of all success and has utilized those qualities in promoting his own advancement in the business world.

In October, 1889, Mr. Calder was married to Miss Anna C. Fagan, a native of Belfast, Ireland, and unto them have been born five children: Allie, at home; Charles, who is attending Clayton College, at Omaha, Nebraska; John, who is managing his father's stock ranch in Polk county, Wisconsin; and Paul and Thomas, both at home.

In his political views Mr. Calder is a democrat where national issues are involved but casts an independent local ballot, considering the capability of the candidate and his fitness for the office to which he aspires. He belongs to Cedar Rapids Lodge, No. 251, B. P. O. E., and to several fraternal insurance organizations. He is also a member of the Cedar Rapids Commercial Club and is thoroughly in sympathy with its object. He has never forgotten the lessons of life which he learned in early boyhood and following closely the teachings of his youth he has become one of the prosperous residents of his native city.

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### HORACE E. McNEIL

Living in Spring Grove township upon his farm of eighty acres are Horace E. McNeil and family. He is one of the progressive men of the community and has been identified with Linn county all his life, having been born upon the old McNeil homestead, June 28, 1865. He is a son of the late George and Mary (Penn) McNeil, who were among the early settlers of this county, the father being a native of New York, while the mother was of Maryland birth.

George McNeil came to Linn county in 1860, when he bought eighty acres of land and farmed for a number of years in Washington township. He was very successful in his work and eventually acquired two hundred and twenty acres of valuable land, all of which he operated with the assistance of his sons until his death, which occurred in March, 1880. His wife's death occurred fifteen years later.

Upon the death of his father, Horace E. McNeil continued to work upon the homestead and aided in caring for his mother. Until he was twenty-three years of age he resided upon the home place and then marrying, he rented sixty-five acres of land and began life for himself. For two years he operated this farm and next rented a tract of two hundred acres which he cultivated for three years, moving from that farm to another one containing one hundred and twenty acres, where he remained but a year. His next move was to a farm owned by himself. It was an eighty acre tract lying in Washington township that he first purchased and for the next fifteen years he lived there. Disposing of that farm he bought eighty acres in Spring Grove township, where he located and has since lived with





his wife and family. This property is in excellent condition, owing to the splendid care Mr. McNeil takes of it, and has increased greatly in value, owing to the extensive improvements which he has made. House, barn and sheds upon the place are in fine condition and the entire place has a homelike air, that makes it an extremely attractive place.

Mr. McNeil was united in marriage to Miss Emeline Hemphill in November, 1888. She is a daughter of Mason and Rachel (Lewison) Hemphill, who came from Ohio to Linn county in 1850, and here the father entered land. They lived in this county until their death, Mrs. Hemphill passing away in March, 1900, and her husband in March, 1905. Mr. and Mrs. McNeil became the parents of four children. Elsie, born 1889, makes her home with her parents. Myrtle, born 1887, is the wife of Frank Berry and lives near Coggon, Iowa. Leona M., aged fifteen years, and George Nathan, aged thirteen, both live with their parents upon the home place.

Both Mr. and Mrs. McNeil are members of the Christian church, in the work of which they both take an active part. Politically he is identified with the republican party, though independent in local matters. He has served the township in which he has resided both as school director and road supervisor, in the former capacity holding office for five years and in the latter a term of six years. He is a man of decided strength of character and is possessed of the unqualified respect and good-will of his fellowmen.

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#### EDWARD J. MULHERIN

Although Edward J. Mulherin is one of the more recent acquisitions to the citizenship of Linn county, he has already gained a place among the substantial farmers of Fairfax township. He is a native of Iowa, his birth having occurred on the 9th of April, 1873, a son of John and Ellen (Wall) Mulherin. The father was born in County Donegal, Ireland, on the 15th of August, 1842, and when a little lad of seven years was brought by his parents to America. The year 1849 witnessed the landing of the family on American soil, their home being established in New York. There John Mulherin attended the public schools and made his home in the eastern metropolis until 1858, when he came to the middle west. His destination was Iowa City, Iowa, and he there spent one year in construction work. In 1859 he removed to Marengo in Iowa county, this state, and engaged in farming, his time being thus spent until the outbreak of the Civil war in 1861, when, no longer content to remain at home when he felt that his services were needed at the front, he enlisted as a member of Company I. Twenty-eighth Iowa Infantry. His services were given to his country throughout the entire period of hostilities, or until 1865, when he returned to his farm in Iowa county, there remaining until the 1st of March, 1910, when he took up his abode in Williamsburg, there to spend the remainder of his days in honorable retirement.

Edward J. Mulherin was reared on the home farm and attended the district schools to the age of seventeen years. At that period in his life he took up the work of farming on the home place, remaining with his father until he was twenty-seven years of age. He then desired to engage in business on his own account and accordingly removed to Clay county, this state, purchasing eighty acres of land. This tract he operated until 1904, when he removed to Iowa county, and in partnership with his father engaged in the operation of six hundred and forty acres of land. They disposed of their interests in March, 1908, and Mr. Mulherin then came to his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres, located in Fairfax township, Linn county. He has made some improvements on the place and has placed the fields under a good state of cultivation, so that



they annually yield rich returns. In his pastures are also found good grades of stock, for he takes great pride in keeping his work animals in good condition and he likewise raises some stock for the market. In all his work he is eminently practical, and this truth is abundantly verified in the success he has achieved.

Mr. Mulherin was married in Holbrook, Iowa, to Miss Theresa Harrison, the date of the wedding being October 17, 1901. Their home has been blessed with two sons and three daughters, namely: Joseph, who is eight years of age and is attending the district school; Marie, seven years of age and also in school; and Agnes, Elizabeth and Vincent, aged respectively five, three and one year.

Mr. Mulherin gives his political support to the republican party, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Catholic church. Opportunities that others have passed by he has noted and improved, and this forms the basis of his success.

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### CHARLES M. McHUGH

Charles M. McHugh is chief of the city plumbing inspection department and his long experience and expert knowledge in this line have given him such efficiency that he has been retained in the position for eight years, through both democratic and republican administrations. He resides at No. 627 Sixth avenue in Cedar Rapids and is widely known among those who are active in office and in municipal affairs in this city. He was born in Gratiot, Wisconsin, and is a son of Daniel and Anna (Brannen) McHugh. The father was also a native of Wisconsin and was a stone-mason by trade. He was a very prominent man in the locality in which he lived, not only because of his business interests but also because of his helpful interests in affairs relating to public progress. After following his trade for some years in the employ of others he began contracting and conducted a large and profitable business for a number of years but at length retired from active life. He died at an advanced age and is still survived by his wife, who is now living in Cedar Rapids. The McHugh family is of Irish lineage, the paternal grandparents of Charles McHugh being John and Sarah McHugh, both natives of Ireland. John McHugh was the first of his family to come to the United States. Both he and his wife were from County Donegal and it was with the hope of enjoying better advantages and opportunities in the new world that he crossed the Atlantic to the United States, establishing his home in Wisconsin, where he reared his family.

Charles M. McHugh began his education in the schools of Gratiot and when comparatively young started out in life on his own account. He was employed on a farm for five years, after which he turned his attention to railroading, which he followed for about twenty years. He then began learning the plumbing trade and at that field of activity has since directed his energies. He removed to Cedar Rapids twenty-three years ago and took up plumbing here and was very successful in the conduct of his business, which each year substantially increased in volume. In 1902 he was appointed by Mayor Huston to the position of chief of the city plumbing inspection department and has since continued in that position, serving through both democratic and republican administrations, his excellent qualifications continuing him in the office.

On the 27th of September, 1898, Mr. McHugh was married to Miss Minnie Forbes of Oxford Junction, Iowa. Two sons have been born unto them, twins, John William and Charles Leo. The parents are members of the Catholic church and Mr. McHugh also belongs to the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Foresters. He has likewise been a member of the Union Association of Plumbers for sixteen years, has filled all of the offices in that organization and is chairman



of the finance committee. He is also a member of the executive committee of the Federation of Labor and of the labor fountain committee. Mr. McHugh deserves much credit for what he has accomplished. He is a self-made man whose labor and ability is the basis of his progress and success. He has the confidence of all who know aught of his official service, and his ability and trustworthiness are indicated by the fact that he has been retained in office by those who hold opposite political views.

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### CHARLES WRIGHT

Among the prosperous farmers and representative citizens of Linn county must be numbered Charles Wright, who is now extensively engaged in agricultural pursuits in Brown township. A native of this county, he was born in Linn township on the 4th of April, 1857, and is a son of Robert and Elizabeth (Mentzer) Wright, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Pennsylvania. It was in 1852 that his parents came to Iowa and located in Linn county, where the father purchased land and extensively engaged in farming up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1889. The mother is still living at the age of seventy-three and now makes her home in Virginia. In the family of this worthy couple were six children, of whom our subject is the eldest.

Charles Wright was given excellent educational advantages during his boyhood and youth, completing his course at college. Under the direction of his father he obtained an excellent knowledge of every department of farm work and at the latter's death he purchased the old homestead, which comprises four hundred and sixty acres of land, which he now has under a high state of cultivation and has improved by the erection of good and substantial buildings for the shelter of both grain and stock. He makes a specialty of raising all kinds of high grade stock and finds this branch of his business quite profitable.

In 1891 Mr. Wright was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Dunlap, a native of Licking county, Ohio, and a daughter of William and Mary Dunlap. They now have one son, Charles M., at home.

In his fraternal relations Mr. Wright is a member of Springville Lodge, No. 139, A. F. & A. M., and both he and his wife are also connected with the Eastern Star. His political affiliations are with the republican party, but he has never sought the honors or emoluments of public office, although he is a public-spirited and progressive citizen and gives his support to all measures which he believes will advance the general welfare or improve the community in which he resides.

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### FRED A. CANFIELD

Fred A. Canfield, living at No. 375 Sixteenth avenue, South, is a contractor of Cedar Rapids. He is a young man of thirty-four years, diligent and resourceful, and has eagerly embraced every opportunity pointing to success. He was born in Mansfield, Pennsylvania, on the 28th of September, 1876, and is a son of J. A. and Hattie (Thompson) Canfield. The father is a carpenter contractor and brought his family to the west about thirty years ago. When he left the Keystone state he went first to Nebraska, where he secured a homestead claim. At a later date he returned to Buffalo, New York, and about sixteen years ago came to Cedar Rapids, where he entered business circles as a contractor and was not long in establishing an enviable reputation for good workmanship and reli-





ability in business transactions. The family numbered but two children: Fred, of this review; and Edna, now the wife of C. C. Post, also a resident of Cedar Rapids.

Fred A. Canfield was a young lad at the time of his parents' removal to Nebraska and in the country schools of Neligh he pursued his education, while later he spent a year as a pupil in a school in Buffalo, New York. Following the establishment of the family home in Cedar Rapids he became a pupil in the public schools here and afterward pursued a course in the Cedar Rapids Business College and became an expert accountant. He decided upon carpentering, however, as his life work and during his school days learned the trade under the direction of his father, with whom he was afterward associated in a partnership relation for a number of years. Later he took up his present line of work and is the only one in the city following this business. The liberal patronage accorded him is proof of his skill and his understanding of the trade, and he is now conducting a profitable enterprise.

On the 15th of January, 1903, occurred the marriage of Mr. Canfield and Miss May Kleinknecht, a daughter of Charles and Belle (Lile) Kleinknecht, of Mount Vernon, Iowa. Their union has been blessed with one daughter, Gladys Edna.

In his fraternal connections Mr. Canfield is an Eagle and is also associated with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Much of his life has been passed in the middle west and has been actuated by the spirit of enterprise which has ever been a dominant element in the upbuilding of this section of the country. Living in Cedar Rapids from his boyhood days, he has formed a wide acquaintance here and his salient characteristics have commended him not only to the good will but also to the business support of the public.

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### JOHN TOMAS

John Tomas, residing on section 28, College township, where his time and energies are devoted to the further development and improvement of a good farm, upon which he has resided for a quarter of a century, was born May 14, 1863, in Johnson county, Iowa, and was the sixth son of Charles and Theresa (Musil) Tomas, progressive farming people who in 1858 left their native land of Bohemia and became residents of Wisconsin. Later they removed to Iowa, settling in Johnson county, the journey being made by ox-team. After reaching this place the father worked at farm labor in the employ of others until he had saved enough with which to purchase forty acres of prairie land. This he at once began to cultivate and improve and his business ability, capable management and judicious investment at length made him the owner of a valuable property of seven hundred and twenty acres, all of which was improved. For many years he was actively, extensively and successfully engaged in farming but in his later years disposed of his farm property and purchased a business block in Iowa City, at which time he retired from active life to enjoy throughout his remaining days the fruits of his former toil. He was born in 1822 and departed this life February 12, 1891, having for several months survived his wife, who passed away July 27, 1890, at the age of sixty-seven years.

John Tomas, reared in Johnson county, pursued his education in the public schools only to the age of twelve years, for at that time he had to put aside his text-books and assist his father and others in the work of the home farm. His youth was largely a period of earnest and unremitting toil in which there were few leisure hours and little opportunity to indulge in the sports which claimed the attention of most boys. He early formed habits of industry, economy and



business integrity, and upon those qualities as a sure and safe foundation he has builded his success.

Mr. Tomas was in his twenty-first year when, on the 12th of December, 1883, he wedded Miss Katherine Stanceel, a daughter of Florian and Katharina (Patavia) Stanceel, whose parents came to this state in 1860 from Bohemia and took up their abode in Iowa City. After working for seventeen and a half years, her father was able to invest in a fine farm of two hundred acres in Linn county. Success came to him as the merited reward of earnest, untiring labor intelligently directed. He died October 5, 1905, while his wife passed away June 6, 1908, and both were seventy-seven years of age when called to their final rest. Mrs. Tomas was born in one of the little log cabins that were common in this state in the pioneer times. By her marriage she has become the mother of five children. Katherine T., who was born December 17, 1884 is the wife of Frank Mitvalsky, a well known buyer of hides, tallow, etc., for a Cedar Rapids firm. Lillie C., born May 22, 1887, is the wife of Fred Bondra, of Linn county. William F., born June 2, 1889, and Mary Libbie, born April 5, 1891, are both at home. Agnes Elizabeth, born March 4, 1894, is in school.

It was in 1885 when Mr. Tomas and his wife took up their abode upon their present farm. Through his able management he has succeeded in working a marked transformation in the appearance of the place. The little two-room house which was their first home has been replaced by a commodious residence built in modern style of architecture. Nearby is a large and well kept orchard, and the lawn is adorned with attractive flower beds. There is also a garden in close proximity to the house and a ten-acre tract of timber land furnishes fire wood. In connection with the cultivation of cereals best adapted to soil and climate, Mr. Tomas also engages in general farming and stock-raising, fattening hogs and cattle for the market. He is persistent and energetic and accomplishes whatever he undertakes, and his property is now the visible evidence of a life of well directed effort and industry. He belongs to the C. S. P. Y., a Bohemian organization, attends the Roman Catholic church in Cedar Rapids, and gives his political support to the democracy. Altogether his life has been well spent, and he deserves classification with the representative farmers of College township.

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### WILLIAM DAHMS

William Dahms is achieving success in the operation of his fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Spring Grove township and is forging to the front as one of the progressive and successful men of the county. He is a native of Linn county, his birth having occurred in Maine township in March, 1870, and is a son of John and Mary (Miller) Dahms, natives of Germany and Switzerland respectively.

John Dahms came to Linn county, Iowa, in 1840 and bought forty acres of land at that time for seven hundred dollars. He farmed this place for a period of thirteen years, then sold it for twelve hundred dollars and with the proceeds bought one hundred and twenty-nine acres of farming land in Marion township. This latter place he resided upon and farmed until his death, which occurred May 30, 1890. Mrs. Dahms is yet living, making her home at Marion, Iowa.

William Dahms remained with his mother, following the death of the father, until shortly before his marriage, which occurred October 16, 1895. Miss Anna Mollenhauer, a daughter of Henry and Louisa (Fundum) Mollenhauer, becoming his wife. Her parents were natives of Germany, who had come to America in 1850 and settled in Ohio, where they lived for six years, there purchasing eighty acres of land. They then removed to Iowa and located in Linn county in 1856,



Mr. Mollenhauer buying one hundred and seventy acres of land. Upon this farm the family has lived ever since, having been residents of Linn county for thirty-one years.

About the time of his marriage, William Dahms bought eighty acres of land in Maine township, upon which he lived and farmed for four years. He was very successful in his work and, deciding that a larger farm would be more remunerative, he disposed of the eighty-acre tract and purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land in Spring Grove township, where he and his wife now reside. This farm he has greatly improved, erecting fine new buildings and caring for the fields in the most scientific manner, until his place is one of the model farms of the county. Its splendid condition and the excellence of the crops it produces reflect decided credit upon the owner, through whose labor and good management it has attained its present splendid form. Mr. Dahms is a republican but is without desire for political preferment, believing that his abilities and energies may best be utilized in the management of his farm. Both he and his wife are members of the Christian church and they take an active part in church work.

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### J. R. EASTERLY

J. R. Easterly, filling the position of postmaster at Kenwood for the past five years, having been appointed to the office by President Roosevelt, was born in Indiana, February 26, 1852, and is the son of Lawrence and Rebecca (Hammond) Easterly. The father was a farmer by occupation, following that pursuit through much of his life. He was born in Pennsylvania and his first work was as captain of a canal boat. He pursued his education in the public schools of the east and after being connected with canal service for a time, he turned his attention to the west, thinking that he might have better business opportunities in other sections of the country. Accordingly he made his way to Indiana and when about fifty years of age became a resident of Iowa, taking up farming land from the government in Jones county. He also became the owner of a farm in Linn county and thus through much of his life carried on general agricultural pursuits. He was a man of notable diligence and industry and accomplished whatever he undertook. As the years went by he prospered in his undertakings and became one of the representative citizens of this part of the state. He died in 1886 and was laid to rest in Lisbon cemetery.

J. R. Easterly began his education at the usual age and continued his studies in the public schools of Indiana until he put aside his text-books in order to provide for his own support. He afterward worked as a farm hand and later came to Iowa, settling in Defiance, where he conducted a general store for about eleven years. He afterward removed to Kenwood, where he has now resided for seven years. Here he is engaged in general merchandising and has a well equipped store, carrying a large and carefully selected line of goods. He is also postmaster of the town.

On the 5th of September, 1872, in Jones county, Iowa, Mr. Easterly was united in marriage to Miss Nancy E. Robinson, a daughter of Charles and Theresa (Reynolds) Robinson. The Reynolds family came to Linn county in 1841, the father of Mrs. Robinson settling on Otter creek, where he entered land and followed the occupation of farming. The Robinson family was established in Jones county in 1841 and entered land there about 1845. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Easterly were born two children: Bertha, now the wife of Louis Green; and Ruth, who is attending school.





Mr. Easterly has always been a warm friend of the public school system and is now serving as treasurer of the school board. He belongs to the United Brethren church and his influence is always on the side of progress and improvement. He is recognized in Kenwood as a progressive business man, diligent and persevering in business, while in the office of postmaster his service is of a character entirely satisfactory to the public. He is ever true to a trust reposed in him and his upright life merits the high regard which is uniformly tendered him.

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### THOMAS S. CALDWELL

Thomas S. Caldwell, filling the office of deputy sheriff of Linn county and making his home in Cedar Rapids, was born in Buffalo, New York, April 19, 1869, his parents being John and Louise Caldwell. To the age of fifteen years he attended the public schools and since that time has been dependent upon his own resources so that whatever success he has achieved is the reward of his labor. Going to Detroit, Michigan, he secured a position in the foundry of S. F. Hodge, there remaining for three years. He afterward went to Chicago and for a year and a half was superintendent of the Princess Skating Rink. Later at Omaha, Nebraska, he acted as clerk in the Millard Hotel for one year and on the expiration of that period went to Pensacola, Florida, where he engaged as engineer in the shops of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad for a year. One month was devoted to service with the Mexican Central Railroad Company, in Mexico, after which he accepted a position as machinist in a flour mill, in which he remained for a year and a half. On the expiration of that period he made his way to Buffalo, New York, and took charge of the rough box department of the Central Manufacturing Company until 1893. Coming to Cedar Rapids in that year, he became connected with the Sinclair Packing Company, having charge of the cold air department until 1903. In the latter year he was made deputy sheriff of the county, in which position he is now discharging his duties in a prompt and fearless manner.

In September, 1894, Mr. Caldwell was married in Cedar Rapids to a Miss Janda and they have become the parents of five children: William, fourteen years of age; Lester, twelve years of age; Wilmer, Lenora and Thomas, aged respectively six, four and two years. The three eldest are now attending the public schools.

Mr. Caldwell has always voted with the republican party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise but has never sought or held office until called to his present position. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Presbyterian church, associations which indicate much of the nature and character of his interests. A well spent life has won him the favorable regard of those with whom he has come in contact.

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### JOHN WILDER

Since 1880 John Wilder has resided on the farm which he now owns, this tract comprising one hundred and forty-nine acres located in Bertram township. He was born in Bohemia, February 8, 1832, and was reared and educated in that country. After reaching years of maturity he was there married to Miss Mary Sevara, after which they made their home in their native country for several years, during which time three children were added to the household. In 1867, foreseeing no future for him in his native land, Mr. Wilder decided to emigrate



to the new world with his family and that year witnessed his arrival in Cedar Rapids. Mrs. Wilder died on her way to America and Mr. Wilder then continued the journey with his children.

He immediately sought employment in Cedar Rapids and worked as a laborer in this city for thirteen years. He carefully saved his earnings in the hope that he might eventually become the owner of land and engage in farming. In 1880 his hopes were realized, when he found himself in possession of a sum that justified the purchase of one hundred and forty-nine acres in Bertram township, and this has been his home to the present time. He immediately located thereon and began the work of development and improvement, and in the years that have come and gone he has met with gratifying success in his labors. He makes a specialty of raising and feeding stock but also devotes a portion of his time to general farming.

Subsequent to his arrival in Cedar Rapids Mr. Wilder was married a second time, but this wife passed away in 1902. Unto them were born four children, all of whom still survive. Mr. Wilder also has one son, John, by his former marriage, the other two children of that marriage being now deceased.

Mr. Wilder gives his political support to the democracy but has never held public office, although he is loyal to the interests of his adopted country. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Catholic church. He possesses considerable musical talent. He has never regretted the move he made in coming to America, for here in Cedar county he has recognized and improved the opportunities that have been presented and today he stands among the substantial residents of this section of the state.

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#### HUGH G. RICK

Many of the fine residences of Cedar Rapids stand as monuments to the enterprise, skill and ability of Hugh G. Rick, a prominent contractor and builder who labored in the field of the architectural improvement of the city for a number of years. He was an eastern man by birth and training but the enterprising west offered him excellent opportunities in the business field—opportunities that he improved to good advantage. He was born in Crawford county, Pennsylvania, September 4, 1845, and was a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Gilliland) Rick, who were also natives of Pennsylvania, where they spent their entire lives. The father was of German lineage, while the mother was of Scotch descent. Joseph Rick was also born in Crawford county and there early learned the blacksmith's trade, which he followed for a long period. Later he withdrew from industrial circles to give his attention to farming, which business occupied his attention until his death in 1878.

Hugh G. Rick was indebted to the public-school system of Pennsylvania for the educational training which he received, but he added largely to his knowledge by reading good and instructive books after his school days were over. He was a well informed man on many subjects, expressing himself intelligently and entertainingly upon questions which were of significant and vital interest to the community in which he lived and to the country at large. He was a youth of but seventeen years when, in September, 1862, he offered his services to the government, becoming a member of Company B, Eighteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry. He was on duty throughout the remainder of the war, taking part in over eighteen regular engagements and skirmishes, including the campaign of the Shenandoah valley and the battles of Gettysburg and of the Wilderness, and the siege of Petersburg. He had his horse shot from under him at Gettysburg and again in the Shenandoah valley, and was knocked over by the force of a shell passing



him. However, he remained on active duty until honorably discharged in July, 1865.

When the war was over and the country no longer needed his military aid Mr. Rick returned to his home in Pennsylvania and there learned the carpenter's trade, which he afterward followed in Wisconsin and Michigan ere coming to Iowa. For many years he worked at his trade in Davenport. He soon became quite proficient in that line, his skill and ability increasing year by year as his experience broadened. For five years he was engaged in contracting on his own account in Davenport, building many fine homes there. In 1875 he came to Cedar Rapids and established himself in contracting here after working for eighteen months for the Sinclair Packing Company. He then began business on his own account and was continuously occupied with his work, his patronage growing in volume and importance as the years went by. He made a specialty of building residences and always employed a large force of masons, carpenter and painters to execute the work. Appreciative of all that is best in architectural design, the residences which he erected were of attractive styles and were characterized, moreover, by substantial and durable workmanship.

While at Edgerton, Wisconsin, Mr. Rick was married to Miss Ellen O. Place in 1868. She was born in Vermont but was reared and educated in Chicago, and unto this marriage there were born two sons. Lillian J., a graduate of the Cedar Rapids high school, who was in partnership with the father, is married and has four children, Hugh, John, Alfred and Ellen. William E., a carpenter by trade, is also married and has two children, Ray and Glenn.

The death of Mr. Rick occurred on the 8th of March, 1902, after a residence of more than a quarter of a century in this city. He gave his political allegiance to the republican party, believing that its principles best conserve the interests of good government. He took an active part in the organized movements instituted by the Commercial Club for the benefit and upbuilding of Cedar Rapids and extended a helping hand to many progressive public movements. His membership relations were with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and with T. Z. Cook Post, G. A. R. He also belonged to the Third Presbyterian church and his life expressed his belief in its teachings.

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### ANDREW W. THOMPSON

Andrew W. Thompson, who has been successfully engaged in business as a building contractor of Cedar Rapids for the past half century, was born in Concord, New Hampshire, on the 27th of January, 1837. The father, whose birth occurred at Concord, New Hampshire, in October, 1805, was actively identified with general agricultural pursuits throughout his entire business career and passed away in 1885.

Andrew W. Thompson attended the public schools until ten years of age and afterward worked on the home farm under the direction of his father until a youth of seventeen. He then learned the stone-mason's trade and when a young man of twenty went to Boston, Massachusetts, there working at his trade for three years. On the expiration of that period he came to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and, embarking in business as stone mason contractor, has since been continuously connected with building interests here. He erected the foundations of the Methodist Episcopal and Presbyterian churches, the Security Savings building, the Mansfield and Smith blocks, the first building for the Sinclair Packing Company and a number of school buildings. He has long been prominent in contracting circles here and undoubtedly one of the strong features of his success is the fact that he has always





continued in the line of business in which he embarked as a young tradesman, his experience augmenting his ability year by year.

On the 25th of December, 1876, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Mr. Thompson was united in marriage to a Miss Bangs, by whom he has two children: Arthur, a traveling salesman who makes his home in Denver, Colorado; and Mrs. Hunting of Cedar Rapids. Mr. Thompson is a republican in politics and a Universalist in religious faith. He has now passed the seventy-third milestone on life's journey and receives the respect and veneration which should ever be accorded one who has traveled thus far on this earthly pilgrimage and whose career has been at all times upright and honorable.

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#### ARTHUR ALLEN JEFFREY

One of the leading business men and prominent citizens of Cedar Rapids is Arthur Allen Jeffrey who has spent his entire life in Iowa. He is a native of Cedar county, born in Clarence on the 22d of April, 1882, and is a son of A. Jeffrey, a prominent lumber dealer, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. During his boyhood and youth our subject was given good educational advantages, attending first the public schools of Cedar Rapids and later Coe College. At the age of nineteen years he began his business career as assistant superintendent of the Cedar Rapids Sash & Door Company, with which he was connected for five years. At the end of that time he purchased stock in the J. B. Terry Company, of which he became secretary and treasurer, and these positions he is still filling to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. He is also president of the Central Chandelier Company of Cedar Rapids and Des Moines and is a very wide-awake, energetic young business man who has already made a creditable success and gives promise of becoming one of the prosperous citizens of his community.

On the 5th of June, 1907, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Jeffrey and Miss Etta Fahr, of Walker, Iowa, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Fahr of that place. Socially Mr. Jeffrey is a prominent member of the Commercial Club and in his fraternal relations is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Sons of Jove, the last named being an electrical fraternity. He also holds membership in the Westminster Presbyterian church and as a public-spirited citizen takes an active interest in those enterprises calculated to promote the moral and material welfare of his city and county. His political support is given to the republican party. He is fond of outdoor sports and his chief recreation is hunting and fishing.

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#### DAVID DEMPSTER BLAKELY

David Dempster Blakely is now living retired in Cedar Rapids. He is in the eighty-sixth year of his age and receives the veneration and respect which should ever be accorded one who has advanced far on life's journey and whose salient qualities have ever been in accord with the principles of upright and honorable manhood. He has lived in America for more than six decades and for forty-two years has resided in Linn county. He was born in the north of Ireland, September 6, 1824, and is a son of David D. and Maria (Douglas) Blakely, both of whom were natives of Ireland, where they spent their entire lives.

David D. Blakely, their only child, came to America in 1849, being then in the twenty-fifth year of his age. Crossing the Atlantic to New York, he remained



in the eastern metropolis for about twenty years and in 1868 came to Linn county, Iowa, at which time he took up his abode in Cedar Rapids. He came here as the official representative of the Sinclair Packing Company, establishing the plant here two years before Mr. Sinclair's arrival. Mr. Blakely continued as manager of the business until 1881, when, on the death of Mr. Sinclair, he withdrew from that field of activity and purchased the place known as the Shady Brook Farm. Taking up his abode thereon, he devoted twenty-four years to general agricultural purposes, bringing his fields under a high state of cultivation and making his farm one of the most attractive places in his section of the county. He then returned to Cedar Rapids in 1905 and has since been living retired in this city, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of his former labor.

Mr. Blakely was married in New York city in 1859 to Miss Rachel B. Guthrie, who was born in Ireland and came to America with her parents in her girlhood days. Mr. and Mrs. Blakely have become the parents of nine children: Catharine, the wife of William Cleary, of Cedar Rapids; David D., who is living in Portland, Oregon; John F., whose home is in Oxford, Colorado; Thomas, deceased; Isabelle C., the wife of J. P. Jones, of Denison, Iowa; one who died in infancy; Elizabeth M., who is a graduate of St. Joseph's Academy and is now engaged in teaching school in Cedar Rapids; Grace A., who is also a graduate of St. Joseph's Academy and is at home; and another child, the youngest, who also died in infancy.

Mr. Blakely and his family are members of the Catholic church, to the teachings of which he has always given consistent and earnest support. His life has been a busy and useful one, and his well spent years have brought him the success which he now enjoys and have gained him the respect and confidence which are so uniformly extended to him.

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#### GEORGE KASPAR WENIG

George Kaspar Wenig, who, in the evening of life after many years of labor characterized by industry, energy and perseverance, is now living a life of retired ease and comfort, is one of Germany's native sons who sought the broader business opportunities of the new world and who, by the exercise of his native talents, has here won a most gratifying and enviable degree of success. Born in Germany on the 3d of July, 1842, he is a son of Christian Wenig, also a native of the fatherland, a locksmith and expert machinist by trade. He married Margaret Hosfield, also of Germany, and unto them were born three children: George Kaspar, of this review; Waldine, a resident of Pleasanton, California, where he is extensively engaged in the butchering business; and Margaret. Upon the death of his first wife Christian Wenig was again married, and the children of the second union were: Henry, conducting a transfer business in Chicago under the name of the Wenig Teaming Company; and Christian, still residing on the old homestead in the fatherland.

George Kaspar Wenig acquired a good education in the schools of his native country, and after laying aside his text-books learned the butchering business in Alten Nordheim. Upon attaining his majority he sought the business advantages which rumor claimed were to be found in the new world, and the year 1863 witnessed his arrival in the United States. He made his way to Baltimore, where he was employed for two years, and then came west, working for a similar period in Chicago. The succeeding year was spent in East Saginaw, Michigan, after which, in 1868, he came to Cedar Rapids and here entered the employ of Kingman & Bradley, for whom he worked for two winters, while for two summers he worked for Fred Peterson. Desiring, however, that his efforts should more directly bene-



fit himself, in 1870 he entered the business world on his own account as a butcher, and although the enterprise had a small beginning, it gradually expanded until, in 1900, it had reached such proportions that Mr. Wenig was able to practically lay aside active business duties and live retired in the enjoyment of all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. He now gives his attention to the supervision of his stock interests, raising good grades of cattle and hogs, and is the owner of four hundred acres of fine farm land in Linn county, besides various town properties. In him is found a strong combination of the stalwart qualities common to the Teutonic race and the enterprise and progressiveness so characteristic of the American people, and these have been the salient elements in the gratifying and enviable success which is today his.

Mr. Wenig was united in marriage to Miss Ida Ernest, a native of the same town in which the birth of her husband occurred, and unto this union were born eight children: Elizabeth, the wife of J. W. Griffith, of Cedar Rapids; Henry, a prosperous farmer of Walworth county, South Dakota; Christian, Caroline, Bertha, Ernest, Helen and Karl, all at home, last named being now a student in the high school.

During the many years of his residence in this city Mr. Wenig has become widely acquainted throughout the community, where he enjoys the respect and good-will of all with whom he has been brought in contact. He has never found occasion to regret his determination to seek his fortune in the new world, for here, although competition is greater, individual effort is unhampered by caste or class and, by his well directed labors he has worked his way upward in the business world until he is today numbered among the substantial and successful residents of Cedar Rapids.

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#### ROY A. KURTZ

Well qualified by liberal education for life's practical and responsible duties, Roy A. Kurtz has fully met the obligations which have devolved upon him and has won for himself a creditable place in business circles as the vice president of the Cedar Rapids Sash & Door Company. He was born in Lisbon, Iowa, on the 3d of February, 1868, and is a son of C. H. and Sarah (Armstrong) Kurtz. The ancestral history in America is traced back through nearly two generations. Conrad Kurtz, the great-grandfather, was born January 8, 1779, and spent his entire life in Pennsylvania.

The grandfather, John E. Kurtz, was born in Lancaster county, that state, September 5, 1817, and in early life followed cabinet-making and also engaged in the manufacture of lumber. In 1847 he located in the southeastern portion of Linn county, Iowa, and founded the town of Lisbon. After following farming for several years he engaged in merchandising and milling, retiring from business in 1887. He held membership in the United Brethren church and gave his political allegiance first to the whig and afterward to the republican party, of which he was one of the organizers. He was one of the first two republicans elected to the legislature from Linn county and was a member of the last session held in Iowa City. He served as mayor of his city and was prominent in local affairs. He married Esther Hershey, a daughter of the Rev. Christian and Elizabeth (Leichty) Hershey. Her father was a pioneer minister of the United Brethren church and was also prominent in civic affairs. He came to Iowa in the spring of 1847, settling in Franklin township, Linn county, and died in 1860, at the age of eighty-three years, while his wife passed away when almost ninety years of age.





C. H. Kurtz, their son and the father of Roy Kurtz, was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, March 29, 1840, and was one of a family of nine children. He began his education in the common schools and later on was among the first pupils enrolled in the Iowa Conference Seminary, now Cornell College of Mount Vernon, Iowa, where he completed his course in June, 1861. He enlisted July 11, 1862, as sergeant of Company F, Twenty-fourth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, was promoted to second lieutenant and first lieutenant and commanded his company as captain. He participated in many of the most hotly contested engagements of the war and was wounded and taken prisoner but was recaptured on the night of the second day. He was then sent to the hospital and later returned home on a leave of absence, and in January, 1865, was honorably discharged. He then engaged with his father in merchandising and milling at Lisbon and devoted his energies to those pursuits until 1875, when he became connected with a Chicago commission house and was engaged in that business until elected recorder of Linn county in 1880. For four consecutive terms he filled the position and the following year he and his wife spent in travel. On his return to Marion he engaged in the real-estate and loan business until December 1, 1895, when he purchased an interest in the First National Bank and became its cashier. He was also one of the incorporators and is the present cashier of the Marion Savings Bank. He is prominent in Masonry and belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic and the Loyal Legion. In politics he is a republican and attended the national convention when Lincoln was nominated. On the 5th of December, 1866, he married Sarah A. Armstrong, a native of Columbiana county, Ohio, and a daughter of Dr. James M. and Nancy (Westlake) Armstrong, the former a distinguished physician and leading citizen of Linn county. Mr. and Mrs. Kurtz have two children, Roy and Gertrude, the latter the wife of W. R. Calvin, of Rockport, Missouri.

The youthful days of Roy A. Kurtz were spent in his parents' home and after he had pursued his studies in the Marion high school he entered Cornell College at Mount Vernon, Iowa, where he devoted three years to the mastery of a course in civil engineering. In the spring of 1888 he left college and entered the county recorder's office, filling the position of deputy recorder for two and a half years, after which he went to Mount Vernon in December, 1890, and accepted the position of clerk in a clothing store. There he continued until 1898, when he went to Chicago and arranged with a wholesale clothing house to go upon the road as traveling salesman. He proved successful in that connection and remained in that position until the first of the year 1904, when he was induced to become a member of the corporation of the Cedar Rapids Sash & Door Company. On the 1st of February of that year he assumed the duties of vice president and is now second executive officer, giving his attention to administrative direction and to the solution of the involved questions which continuously arise in connection with the management of any large and important industry.

On the 3d of June, 1897, Mr. Kurtz was married to Miss Geneva M. Keyes, of Mount Vernon, and unto them have been born three children, Maurice, Helen and Genevieve. Mr. Kurtz is a member of Crescent Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and of Patmos Commandery, K. T., of Marion. He also holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and gives his political allegiance to the republican party. He has faithfully performed the various duties which have devolved upon him in his chosen field of labor, has sought to improve the opportunities which have come to him and in the legitimate lines of trade and commerce has reached a creditable position, being now connected with one of the most important productive industries of Cedar Rapids and gaining therefrom substantial and well merited success.



# INDEX

|                         |     |                        |     |
|-------------------------|-----|------------------------|-----|
| Abrams, Harry.....      | 527 | Blue, J. D., Jr.....   | 227 |
| Adams, John.....        | 240 | Bolton, M. V.....      | 686 |
| Adams, John, Jr.....    | 577 | Booth, H. I.....       | 733 |
| Adams, O. N.....        | 34  | Borghart, F. W.....    | 376 |
| Allen, F. A.....        | 462 | Bourne, Nathaniel..... | 614 |
| Alt, L. W.....          | 596 | Bowler, M. G.....      | 813 |
| Amidon, J. R.....       | 677 | Bowman, Benjamin.....  | 151 |
| Andersen, N. C.....     | 170 | Boxwell, William.....  | 807 |
| Anderson, Andrew.....   | 215 | Boyson, G. H.....      | 171 |
| Anderson, F. L.....     | 210 | Bradley, W. J.....     | 698 |
| Anderson, J. S.....     | 162 | Briden, E. U.....      | 102 |
| Anderson, L. W.....     | 48  | Briney, O. E.....      | 65  |
| Antles, F. F.....       | 594 | Broeksmit, J. C.....   | 848 |
| Arduser, Joseph.....    | 267 | Broeksmit, J. S.....   | 850 |
| Ashby, E. G.....        | 587 | Brooks, G. A.....      | 575 |
| Averill, A. T.....      | 8   | Brown, A. G.....       | 132 |
| Bailey, F. W.....       | 637 | Brown, C. D.....       | 836 |
| Baker, W. W.....        | 606 | Brown, C. T.....       | 140 |
| Ball, E. H.....         | 309 | Brown, H. T.....       | 857 |
| Ball, Harry.....        | 845 | Brown, N. B.....       | 30  |
| Barber, E. C.....       | 853 | Bruner, G. B.....      | 613 |
| Barry, C. O.....        | 738 | Buehtela, John.....    | 299 |
| Barry, J. W.....        | 390 | Bunting, M. E.....     | 338 |
| Barry, Justin.....      | 397 | Bures, Josef.....      | 751 |
| Barta, F. M.....        | 716 | Burianek, John.....    | 179 |
| Bartleson, J. M.....    | 723 | Burt, E. R.....        | 299 |
| Bartlett, M. E.....     | 476 | Burt, L. W.....        | 272 |
| Barto, Carrie.....      | 156 | Busenbark, J. W.....   | 791 |
| Batchelder, C. E.....   | 800 | Buser, H. R.....       | 28  |
| Bauer, B. R.....        | 264 | Butler, C. F.....      | 829 |
| Bauman, A. A.....       | 543 | Byers, F. C.....       | 172 |
| Bauman, S. H.....       | 459 | Byers, W. C.....       | 753 |
| Bealer, E. J. C.....    | 662 | Calder, C. A.....      | 860 |
| Beall, J. M.....        | 412 | Calder, C. E.....      | 311 |
| Beall, W. E.....        | 289 | Caldwell, J. J.....    | 144 |
| Beatty, J. I.....       | 725 | Caldwell, T. S.....    | 868 |
| Beatty, John.....       | 740 | Calhoun, J. E.....     | 192 |
| Beatty, S. B.....       | 649 | Campbell, G. A.....    | 551 |
| Becicka, Joseph.....    | 734 | Canfield, F. A.....    | 864 |
| Begley, J. L.....       | 277 | Caraway, J. S.....     | 254 |
| Benion, J. H.....       | 859 | Carbee, J. P.....      | 354 |
| Bennett, Henry.....     | 498 | Carbee, J. W.....      | 357 |
| Bennett, Mrs. L. M..... | 812 | Carhart, G. L.....     | 680 |
| Berry, W. J.....        | 843 | Carl, J. M.....        | 670 |
| Bersley, W. S.....      | 375 | Carpenter, A. M.....   | 317 |
| Bever, J. L.....        | 805 | Carpenter, C. C.....   | 617 |
| Bice, G. C.....         | 43  | Carpenter, G. P.....   | 560 |
| Bice, Isaac.....        | 634 | Carpenter, Martha..... | 819 |
| Bickel, C. J.....       | 570 | Carpenter, S. D.....   | 755 |
| Bigger, J. E.....       | 103 | Carpenter, W. B.....   | 332 |
| Birdsall, C. H.....     | 177 | Casbeer, J. B.....     | 242 |
| Bixby, Simon.....       | 500 | Castle, F. A.....      | 482 |
| Black, W. A.....        | 336 | Chadima, J. T.....     | 299 |
| Blackmar, Augustus..... | 300 | Chalfant, H. G.....    | 166 |
| Blaine, J. M.....       | 257 | Chapman, Edna.....     | 769 |
| Blakely, D. D.....      | 871 | Chapman, O. J.....     | 59  |
| Blakely, James.....     | 628 | Cherry, W. L.....      | 79  |
| Bloom, J. R.....        | 186 | Chesmore, C. B.....    | 522 |



|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| Christman, John.....   | 134 |
| Clark, C. H.....       | 603 |
| Clark, G. D.....       | 671 |
| Cleary, W. H.....      | 749 |
| Cleveland, F. J.....   | 57  |
| Coligan, T. F.....     | 475 |
| Conn, A. H.....        | 331 |
| Cook, J. E.....        | 123 |
| Cooper, J. A.....      | 116 |
| Coquillet, D. L.....   | 569 |
| Cordes, J. C.....      | 809 |
| Cory, A. L.....        | 330 |
| Cory, D. M.....        | 127 |
| Court, C. W.....       | 118 |
| Craemer, H. N.....     | 51  |
| Creglow, C. R.....     | 292 |
| Cubel, John.....       | 516 |
| Cubel, Vincent.....    | 218 |
| Cumming, M. I.....     | 808 |
| Currell, B. B.....     | 470 |
| Curtis, N. J.....      | 850 |
| Cutter, R. C.....      | 184 |
| Dahms, William.....    | 866 |
| Dale, George.....      | 230 |
| Dana, F. F.....        | 626 |
| Daniels Family.....    | 60  |
| Daniels, J. K.....     | 747 |
| Davis, J. C.....       | 82  |
| Davis, J. L.....       | 405 |
| Davis, W. L.....       | 583 |
| Davis, William.....    | 268 |
| Dawley, F. F.....      | 196 |
| Day, B. R.....         | 27  |
| Deacon, C. J.....      | 604 |
| Dean, W. E.....        | 322 |
| DeClow, W. L.....      | 92  |
| Deditz, Joseph.....    | 636 |
| Delancy, W. J.....     | 812 |
| Dempsey, D. D.....     | 658 |
| Denecke, Charles.....  | 684 |
| Denning, J. M.....     | 346 |
| Dennis, William.....   | 590 |
| Devol, Silas A.....    | 638 |
| De Wees, A. L.....     | 149 |
| Deweese, J. N.....     | 778 |
| Dietz, William.....    | 86  |
| Dignan, J. H.....      | 555 |
| Diserens, F. L.....    | 169 |
| Dix, Samuel.....       | 371 |
| Dobrovsky, Lewis.....  | 537 |
| Doctor, Joseph.....    | 842 |
| Donohue, Edward M..... | 468 |
| Doolittle, A. A.....   | 283 |
| Douglas, G. B.....     | 368 |
| Dows, S. L.....        | 672 |
| Drabos, Vincel.....    | 409 |
| Drips, George.....     | 779 |
| Dunn, James.....       | 543 |
| Dunn, James A.....     | 497 |
| Dunn, John A.....      | 521 |
| Dunn, J. E.....        | 47  |
| Dunn, J. N.....        | 650 |
| Durin, W. H.....       | 854 |
| Dvorak, J. C.....      | 770 |
| Dvorak, W. J.....      | 411 |
| Easterly, G. H.....    | 351 |

|                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Easterly, J. R.....       | 867 |
| Eckert, M. E.....         | 816 |
| Ehda, Edward.....         | 579 |
| Ellis, Robert.....        | 643 |
| Ely, J. S.....            | 824 |
| Erickson, Frederick.....  | 283 |
| Esgate, E. J.....         | 446 |
| Esrey, W. P.....          | 546 |
| Etzel, Albert.....        | 531 |
| Etzel, Henry.....         | 358 |
| Etzel, Levi.....          | 464 |
| Evans, G. A.....          | 234 |
| Fairechild, Henry.....    | 201 |
| Faltis, Frank.....        | 827 |
| Faulkes, F. W.....        | 629 |
| Fee, W. B.....            | 58  |
| Feiereisen, Dominick..... | 552 |
| Ferman, K. C.....         | 644 |
| Fernow, E. L.....         | 259 |
| Fernow, E. W.....         | 323 |
| Fernow, F. P.....         | 143 |
| Fernow, G. C.....         | 349 |
| Fernow, O. S.....         | 352 |
| Fernow, Samuel.....       | 598 |
| Fiala, Joseph.....        | 657 |
| Fiala, W. J.....          | 217 |
| Filip, Frank.....         | 530 |
| Finn, G. E.....           | 685 |
| Finson, E. R.....         | 535 |
| Fishell, P. H.....        | 559 |
| Fisher, A. W.....         | 273 |
| Fisher, E. B.....         | 410 |
| Fiske, E. O.....          | 434 |
| Fitzgerald, R. N.....     | 398 |
| Flitsch, George.....      | 461 |
| Floyd, C. G.....          | 609 |
| Fogarty, William.....     | 454 |
| Ford, Michael.....        | 511 |
| Forsythe, H. M.....       | 531 |
| Franchere, A. O.....      | 411 |
| Franchere, Alphonse.....  | 661 |
| Franchere, O. J.....      | 419 |
| Frederick, Cris.....      | 258 |
| Freer, H. H.....          | 567 |
| French, J. H.....         | 180 |
| Gaasch, J. W.....         | 283 |
| Gable, J. E.....          | 369 |
| Gadd, G. T.....           | 538 |
| Gardner, J. R.....        | 15  |
| Garretson, A. B.....      | 96  |
| Gerber, Jacob, Sr.....    | 813 |
| Gerolamy, L. A.....       | 174 |
| Giberson, T. M.....       | 417 |
| Gibson, B. W.....         | 251 |
| Gibson, C. D.....         | 260 |
| Gilchrist, A. A.....      | 471 |
| Gilchrist, Lawrence.....  | 183 |
| Gillilan, H. P.....       | 792 |
| Gillmore, David.....      | 142 |
| Gillmore, E. J.....       | 126 |
| Gillmore, G. A.....       | 157 |
| Glass, John P.....        | 795 |
| Good, Henry.....          | 72  |
| Good, J. W.....           | 827 |
| Goodlove, W. H.....       | 374 |
| Goudy, W. O.....          | 775 |





|                         |     |                            |     |
|-------------------------|-----|----------------------------|-----|
| Graft, W. S.....        | 583 | Jeffrey, T. A.....         | 216 |
| Greene, George.....     | 5   | Jenkins, L. E.....         | 193 |
| Greene, W. J.....       | 563 | Jensen, Christ.....        | 808 |
| Grupe, Henry, Jr.....   | 539 | Jensen, J. C.....          | 629 |
|                         |     | Johnson, E. A.....         | 445 |
| Haus, C. J.....         | 303 | Johnson, P. C.....         | 707 |
| Hach, E. E.....         | 718 | Johnson, T. W.....         | 149 |
| Hajek, J. J.....        | 713 | Jordan, G. L.....          | 556 |
| Hall, J. G.....         | 693 | Josefi, John.....          | 448 |
| Hamilton, J. T.....     | 52  |                            |     |
| Hamilton, John.....     | 696 | Kearns, J. M.....          | 764 |
| Hamilton, Porter.....   | 261 | Kee, W. L.....             | 574 |
| Hampton, D. W.....      | 320 | Kelley, O. L.....          | 837 |
| Hann, P. M.....         | 763 | Kelly, John.....           | 708 |
| Harlan, J. E.....       | 811 | Kelsey, H. M.....          | 718 |
| Harmon, W. R.....       | 321 | Kemp, E. I.....            | 250 |
| Harnish, Jonas.....     | 817 | Kemp, X. N.....            | 520 |
| Hart, J. A.....         | 124 | Kendall, K. W.....         | 297 |
| Hartley, S. H.....      | 610 | Kendall, W. J.....         | 432 |
| Haskell, W. G.....      | 846 | Kern, Fred.....            | 737 |
| Hatch, L. K.....        | 554 | Kerns, J. R.....           | 337 |
| Hayes, J. M.....        | 508 | Kerns, Mories.....         | 713 |
| Hazeltine, M. W.....    | 467 | Kerr, H. W.....            | 237 |
| Heald, E. T.....        | 765 | Kershner, Eugene.....      | 270 |
| Heald, F. A.....        | 840 | Kilborn, Frank.....        | 394 |
| Heins, B. F.....        | 837 | Kilmeyer, F. W.....        | 416 |
| Henderson, E. E.....    | 95  | King, D. W.....            | 841 |
| Henderson, H. C.....    | 340 | King, G. E.....            | 425 |
| Henderson, Henry.....   | 625 | King, W. S.....            | 681 |
| Henderson, P. G.....    | 110 | Kinley, D. R.....          | 11  |
| Henderson, P. T.....    | 319 | Kleitsch, John.....        | 221 |
| Henderson, W. J.....    | 7   | Knickerbocker, W. B.....   | 744 |
| Henderson, W. E.....    | 847 | Knudsen, Peter.....        | 252 |
| Hendrickson, F. M.....  | 365 | Konigsmark, Frank, Jr..... | 505 |
| Hickman, M. S.....      | 624 | Kocher, J. J.....          | 730 |
| Hickman, Shelton.....   | 515 | Korah, Thomas.....         | 367 |
| Higley, W. W.....       | 382 | Kozlovsky, Joseph.....     | 703 |
| Hill, James.....        | 486 | Kramer, J. N.....          | 194 |
| Hobson, F. A.....       | 499 | Kramer, J. H.....          | 139 |
| Holub, Martin.....      | 455 | Kratzer, S. N.....         | 80  |
| Hoover, J. A.....       | 528 | Kriz, J. J.....            | 740 |
| Hopson, F. A.....       | 372 | Krouse, Charles.....       | 573 |
| Horne, R. S.....        | 576 | Krouse, Frank.....         | 858 |
| Houser, C. T.....       | 779 | Kula, J. J.....            | 85  |
| Houser, M. W.....       | 627 | Kuntz, G. W.....           | 314 |
| Howard, William.....    | 449 | Kurtz, R. A.....           | 873 |
| Howell, D. E.....       | 648 |                            |     |
| Hradecky, Frank.....    | 415 | Lacock, W. A.....          | 785 |
| Hrbek, Joseph.....      | 720 | Laird, J. G.....           | 821 |
| Hromatko, P. A.....     | 519 | Lake, J. S.....            | 366 |
| Hruska, John.....       | 614 | Langworthy, S. M.....      | 743 |
| Hubbard, C. P.....      | 353 | Launing, E. M.....         | 298 |
| Hubbard, L. E.....      | 483 | Larimer, E. J.....         | 192 |
| Hughes, J. H.....       | 485 | Larimer, E. K.....         | 453 |
| Hull, Ella.....         | 813 | Larsen, Mike.....          | 784 |
| Hunter, S. I.....       | 450 | Lassen, Knute.....         | 351 |
| Hurt, Arthur.....       | 187 | Lawler, E. T.....          | 855 |
| Husmann, Tobe.....      | 607 | Leclere, Edward.....       | 74  |
| Huston, C. D.....       | 87  | Lefebure, Henry.....       | 599 |
| Hutton, George.....     | 328 | Lefebure, John.....        | 512 |
|                         |     | Leidigh, Frank.....        | 477 |
| Ilgensfritz, David..... | 833 | Leigh, C. E.....           | 359 |
| Ink, M. L.....          | 789 | Leigh, J. B.....           | 782 |
|                         |     | Lesinger, Edward.....      | 570 |
| Jackson, W. T.....      | 78  | Lesinger, J. W.....        | 635 |
| Janko, J. F.....        | 504 | Levasseur, Abel.....       | 253 |
| Jeffrey, A. A.....      | 871 | Lewis, C. W.....           | 401 |
| Jeffrey, A. S.....      | 208 | Lewis, T. C.....           | 27  |



|                              |     |                           |     |
|------------------------------|-----|---------------------------|-----|
| Liddle, J. T.....            | 88  | Mohrbacher, W. A.....     | 513 |
| Lighty, D. H.....            | 650 | Moun, C. W.....           | 187 |
| Lilly, Joseph.....           | 269 | Moore, C. M.....          | 371 |
| Lincoln, G. A.....           | 13  | Moorhead, M. H.....       | 278 |
| Lindsay, H. A.....           | 751 | Meser, P. S.....          | 858 |
| Linehen, Cornelius, Jr.....  | 433 | Muench, P. R.....         | 247 |
| Linville, G. P.....          | 838 | Mulherin, E. J.....       | 862 |
| Lockhart, John.....          | 56  | Munger, T. C.....         | 324 |
| Lofthus, W. G.....           | 484 | Murray, A. J.....         | 361 |
| Long, B. W.....              | 553 | Murray, J. E. & C. P..... | 319 |
| Long, D. P.....              | 472 | Myers, William.....       | 709 |
| Long, L. G.....              | 395 |                           |     |
| Long, T. J.....              | 213 | Naibert, Joseph.....      | 529 |
| Lord, Richard.....           | 721 | Naso, Antonio.....        | 148 |
| Loughnane, P. M.....         | 312 | Neal, Edgar D.....        | 788 |
| Lutz, H. B.....              | 41  | Neal, Elmer D.....        | 789 |
| Lyman, F. A.....             | 259 | Neal, H. E.....           | 810 |
|                              |     | Nelson, Laurence.....     | 281 |
| McCarthy, Timothy.....       | 201 | Newell, H. H.....         | 85  |
| McClintock, J. W.....        | 164 | Newland, H. D.....        | 42  |
| McConkie, J. J.....          | 99  | Newland, Horace D.....    | 389 |
| McConkie, W. A.....          | 50  | Newman, A. H.....         | 489 |
| McDonald, T. P.....          | 856 | Nielsen, Chris.....       | 787 |
| McHugh, C. M.....            | 863 | Nielsen, J. S.....        | 163 |
| McManes, A. A.....           | 117 | Nietert, H. J.....        | 20  |
| McNamara, F. P.....          | 101 | Norton, W. H.....         | 506 |
| McNamara, Thomas.....        | 574 | Novotny, S. B.....        | 760 |
| McNeil, F. B.....            | 81  | Nyere, George.....        | 832 |
| McNeil, H. E.....            | 861 |                           |     |
| McNiel, R. M.....            | 191 | O'Connell, George.....    | 629 |
| McShane, C. J.....           | 783 | Olney, O. C.....          | 339 |
| McShane, F. I.....           | 761 | Ondler, M. M.....         | 748 |
| McTavish, W. D.....          | 428 | Ondler, Phillip.....      | 597 |
| MacDanel, J. W.....          | 746 | Ormiston, C. F.....       | 293 |
| Machacek, J. F.....          | 594 | Ovington, T. S.....       | 420 |
| Madery, Gustav.....          | 580 | Owens, John A.....        | 418 |
| Magnus, Christian.....       | 446 | Oxley, Albert.....        | 724 |
| Manchester, H. J.....        | 823 | Oxley, E. M.....          | 147 |
| Mansfield, E. L.....         | 402 | Oxley, Marshall.....      | 562 |
| Mansfield, E. O.....         | 128 | Oxley, R. S.....          | 639 |
| Manville, S. O.....          | 439 |                           |     |
| Marquis, J. A.....           | 329 | Palmer, A. L.....         | 669 |
| Martin, Burgess.....         | 185 | Palmer, Robert.....       | 224 |
| Martin, Fred.....            | 766 | Parsons, S. N.....        | 263 |
| Martin, T. C.....            | 553 | Paul, J. T. & A. H.....   | 697 |
| Martinek, J. M.....          | 215 | Pearson, J. M.....        | 786 |
| Mason, H. E.....             | 737 | Pearson, William.....     | 793 |
| Matyk, Anton.....            | 705 | Pease, F. H.....          | 381 |
| Maxwell, W. J.....           | 623 | Peet, M. J.....           | 133 |
| Mekota, Joseph.....          | 350 | Petrovitsky, J. C.....    | 625 |
| Merchants National Bank..... | 697 | Peyton, P. L.....         | 695 |
| Meredith, M. F.....          | 12  | Pichner, J. W.....        | 851 |
| Merrill, G. A.....           | 752 | Pickering, J. C.....      | 108 |
| Messer, J. P.....            | 158 | Pingrey, J. M.....        | 248 |
| Michalek, Joseph.....        | 540 | Pinncey, E. E.....        | 104 |
| Miell, R. H.....             | 232 | Plummer, Amos.....        | 310 |
| Mika, Frank.....             | 152 | Pollock, C. V.....        | 788 |
| Miles, M. J.....             | 178 | Port, A. C.....           | 803 |
| Millburn, B. F.....          | 682 | Pospishil, Wensel.....    | 834 |
| Miller, Aquillar.....        | 699 | Post, W. W.....           | 427 |
| Miller, B. P.....            | 814 | Powell, W. P.....         | 615 |
| Miller, G. F.....            | 463 | Powers, W. E.....         | 463 |
| Miller, J. B.....            | 119 | Preston, J. H.....        | 77  |
| Miller, Samuel.....          | 711 | Pusateri, Pasquale.....   | 660 |
| Mills, C. R.....             | 618 |                           |     |
| Mills, J. J.....             | 610 | Quaas, Godfrey.....       | 804 |
| Mitchell, A. J.....          | 577 | Quaas, W. H.....          | 855 |
| Mohler, Samuel.....          | 704 |                           |     |



|                              |     |                         |     |
|------------------------------|-----|-------------------------|-----|
| Rabe, Carl.....              | 109 | Stevenson, Joseph.....  | 223 |
| Rabe, F. J.....              | 185 | Stewart, C. J.....      | 290 |
| Rabus, G. F.....             | 442 | Stewart, J. O.....      | 719 |
| Rafter, James.....           | 140 | Stewart, Mathew.....    | 438 |
| Rall, J. F.....              | 536 | Stickel, S. M.....      | 110 |
| Randall, G. W.....           | 143 | Stiekney, M. W.....     | 29  |
| Reece, C. D.....             | 579 | Stinger, H. H.....      | 794 |
| Reece, David.....            | 578 | Stinger, T. E.....      | 802 |
| Reece, W. W.....             | 616 | Stirsky, John.....      | 59  |
| Regan, J. J.....             | 293 | Stodola, John.....      | 706 |
| Reitzel & Martin.....        | 302 | Stoneking, T. C.....    | 688 |
| Resch, Samuel.....           | 188 | Stooley, N. H.....      | 702 |
| Reynolds, Patrick.....       | 815 | Storrs, F. O.....       | 396 |
| Richards, F. J.....          | 852 | Story, G. W.....        | 579 |
| Richardson, N. B.....        | 585 | Story, J. H.....        | 373 |
| Rick, H. G.....              | 869 | Strong, G. A.....       | 619 |
| Rickel, Henry.....           | 491 | Stuart, George.....     | 38  |
| Robbins, C. B.....           | 384 | Stuckslager, W. C.....  | 762 |
| Roberts, W. H.....           | 150 | Sullivan, T. J.....     | 725 |
| Rogers, Thomas.....          | 772 | Svoboda, C. B.....      | 238 |
| Root, Gib.....               | 387 | Svrdlik, Florian.....   | 620 |
| Ross, D. A.....              | 440 | Swayne, Marshall.....   | 173 |
| Runkle, E. A.....            | 165 | Swenson, A. T.....      | 120 |
| Runkle, W. H.....            | 447 |                         |     |
| Safley, James.....           | 294 | Taylor, E. H.....       | 248 |
| Sallach, Mrs. Ferdinand..... | 393 | Taylor, R. D.....       | 336 |
| Schantz, Jacob.....          | 646 | Terry, J. M.....        | 318 |
| Schantz, Louis.....          | 645 | Thomas, John.....       | 239 |
| Scott, E. M.....             | 195 | Thomas, Theophilus..... | 726 |
| Scott, H. A.....             | 464 | Thomas, W. G.....       | 731 |
| Scott, J. B.....             | 22  | Thompson, A. W.....     | 870 |
| Scott, J. G.....             | 229 | Thompson, F. M.....     | 844 |
| Secrist, A. M.....           | 44  | Thompson, F. O.....     | 588 |
| Senninger, Francis.....      | 383 | Thompson, J. M.....     | 151 |
| Severa, W. F.....            | 709 | Thompson, M. M.....     | 26  |
| Shadle, Jacob.....           | 335 | Thompson, W. G.....     | 202 |
| Shafer, Samuel.....          | 659 | Tisdale, F. B.....      | 141 |
| Shearer Family.....          | 728 | Todd, A. J.....         | 595 |
| Sheldon, B. L.....           | 620 | Tomas, John.....        | 865 |
| Shunk, J. A.....             | 282 | Toms, G. W.....         | 284 |
| Shurtleff, F. G.....         | 773 | Torrance, C. M.....     | 244 |
| Shurtleff, L. J.....         | 750 | Trumbull, R. W.....     | 564 |
| Sigmund, F. A.....           | 483 | Turner, J. B.....       | 689 |
| Sinclair, T. M.....          | 35  |                         |     |
| Sindelar, Joseph.....        | 739 | Vahl, John.....         | 313 |
| Skvor, J. M.....             | 593 | Van Metre, Ezra.....    | 271 |
| Sloan, W. J.....             | 656 | Vannote, C. B.....      | 155 |
| Smith, G. W.....             | 532 | Van Vechten, C. D.....  | 544 |
| Smith, J. H.....             | 735 | Van Vechten, G. F.....  | 774 |
| Smith, J. P.....             | 503 | Vavrichek, F. B.....    | 416 |
| Smith, M. P.....             | 586 | Viktor, J. A.....       | 262 |
| Smith, Milo P.....           | 388 | Vinton, A. J.....       | 362 |
| Smith, S. G.....             | 546 | Visha, Louis.....       | 617 |
| Snouffer, J. J.....          | 694 |                         |     |
| Snyder, Abraham.....         | 456 | Waite, R. W.....        | 161 |
| Snyder, G. L.....            | 207 | Walker, J. I.....       | 200 |
| Sonka, W. J.....             | 274 | Walker, W. W.....       | 478 |
| Spellerberg, Henry.....      | 821 | Walker, William.....    | 690 |
| Spellerberg, William.....    | 819 | Wallace, D. R.....      | 260 |
| Spitzer, Walker.....         | 608 | Wallace, Jay.....       | 156 |
| Spormann, William.....       | 93  | Wallace, Leroy.....     | 839 |
| Stark, C. H.....             | 820 | Waln, G. E.....         | 394 |
| Stark, G. M.....             | 514 | Walton, W. J.....       | 768 |
| Starr, C. A.....             | 608 | Ward, A. J.....         | 424 |
| Stauffer, J. F.....          | 396 | Warriner, T. R.....     | 830 |
| Steffy, J. W.....            | 313 | Washburn, W. F.....     | 815 |
| Stepanek, W. H.....          | 732 | Weare, Charles.....     | 16  |
|                              |     | Weare, John.....        | 66  |





|                      |     |                         |     |
|----------------------|-----|-------------------------|-----|
| Webb, C. B.....      | 51  | Wolmuth, J. W.....      | 49  |
| Webb, William F..... | 423 | Wood, F. M.....         | 521 |
| Weis, E. J.....      | 609 | Wood, W. C. M.....      | 275 |
| Weller, W. L.....    | 742 | Woods, Onry.....        | 615 |
| Wenig, G. K.....     | 872 | Wright, Charles.....    | 804 |
| Werner, Henry.....   | 21  | Wright, W. C.....       | 745 |
| West, D. M.....      | 287 | Wunderlich, John.....   | 615 |
| Wetherbee, E. S..... | 426 | Yates, B. F.....        | 132 |
| Wetzel, Jacob.....   | 490 | Yates, J. F.....        | 222 |
| Whitney, G. P.....   | 214 | Yocum, Edward.....      | 758 |
| Wicke, H. J.....     | 822 | Yonkers, Garrett.....   | 679 |
| Wiggins, S. T.....   | 233 | York, N. A.....         | 776 |
| Wilcox, E. E.....    | 222 | Yost, F. M.....         | 73  |
| Wild, W. K.....      | 767 | Young, E. E.....        | 741 |
| Wilder, John.....    | 868 | Young, L. B.....        | 512 |
| Williams, M. D.....  | 494 | Yuill, T. B.....        | 759 |
| Wilsey, Marvin.....  | 37  | Zachary, J. H., Jr..... | 236 |
| Wilson, A. H.....    | 801 | Zahradnik, Joseph.....  | 635 |
| Wilson, H. L.....    | 279 | Zalesky, George.....    | 392 |
| Wilson, W. C.....    | 714 | Zalesky, Wencil.....    | 701 |
| Witwer, B. H.....    | 715 |                         |     |
| Witwer, H. E.....    | 94  |                         |     |

















